

# Jordanian diplomat heads for Kuwait

AMMAN (AP) — A senior Jordanian diplomat left for Kuwait Saturday, the first such visit since the two countries fell out in 1990 over Iraq's invasion of the emirate, a foreign ministry spokesman said. Ahmed Mbeidin said Mashhour Zeben, a high-ranking foreign ministry official, was scheduled to arrive in Kuwait city Saturday on a four-day visit. Mr. Zeben's mission is to inspect the Jordanian embassy, closed since 1990, and meet with Kuwaiti officials. Mr. Mbeidin declined to comment on what Mr. Zeben will discuss in Kuwait. But there was speculation that he will seek to initiate a reconciliation with the emirate. King Hussein said in an interview with the Qatari news agency last Sunday that he was determined to mend fences with the Gulf Arabs, who over the years contributed hundreds of millions of dollars to aid Jordan's economy. Relations with Kuwait soured because of the Kingdom's perceived tilt towards Iraq after it invaded the emirate. Jordan refused to join the U.S.-led military coalition that eventually drove the Iraqis out of Kuwait in February 1991. Kuwait threw out 320,000 Jordanians and ordered Jordanian diplomats out of the country.

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## Regent receives visiting UNDP administrator

### Development should be linked directly to human resources

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said Saturday that comprehensive development can be best achieved through the implementation of projects with clearly defined population and humanitarian objectives. Such a development should be linked directly to human resources because it is man which is primarily targeted by any development scheme, the Regent said at a meeting at the Royal Court with James Gustave Speth, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) administrator and an accompanying delegation currently visiting Jordan. Underlining the important role played by the United Nations towards attaining comprehensive development in the Third World, the Regent said U.N. agencies were bound to achieve that goal as long as they coordinate their efforts at the international level. Mr. Speth expressed UNDP's appreciation of Jordan's development efforts pointing out the Regent's active role in international fora that address population and development activities. The UNDP, Mr. Speth said, will continue to support Jordan's development efforts by all possible means. Mr. Speth earlier Saturday met Minister of Planning Hisham Al Khatib and reviewed difficulties facing Jordan like shortage of water, poverty and unemployment as well as other challenges. The two officials also discussed UNDP's programme to the Kingdom to help it overcome these difficulties. Mr. Speth noted with appreciation Jordan's achievements in education, health and social development, in particular the Kingdom's comprehensive development programmes. In an interview with Jordan Television, Mr. Speth said, "We have had a UNDP programme in Jordan for many years, but I am a new administrator and I have come to learn about the programme. To learn how we can be of help to this wonderful and sophisticated country, to learn what types of initiatives we can take to further sustainable and human-centred development in Jordan."



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday receives United Nations Development Programme Administrator James Gustave Speth at the Royal Court (Petra photo)

## OIC urges Muslim states to attend Cairo conference

DUBAI (Agencies) — The 51-member Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) said on Saturday that Muslim states must take an active part in the U.N. population conference in Cairo to make sure its recommendations conform with Islamic values. In Tehran, the head of Iran's delegation to the forum said Muslim countries should not boycott it but should attend in order to influence the final document. "The conference is due to start on Monday with some 146 countries expected to attend. Its draft document has been attacked by Muslim and Catholic groups who say it promotes abortion, homosexuality and sex outside marriage. The OIC considers that it is necessary for member countries to press forcefully for the imposing of our Islamic positions and preventing the approval of any document which goes against the teachings of the Koran," said a statement sent to Reuters by the Jeddah-based OIC. "Behind the diplomatic formulas can be seen the arrogant claims of the liberal thinking that wiped out communism and is now preparing to impose itself on the great majority of mankind as the only correct path to achieve progress and happiness." The OIC said the draft's recommendations, if put into practice, would strip U.N. member states' political, economic and educational programmes of any religious or moral content. The head of Iran's delegation to the conference, cleric Mohammad Ali Tashkiri, told Tehran radio on Saturday that Muslim states should not boycott the conference. Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Iraq and Sudan have decided not to attend. "We do not agree with boycotting the conference. We want all Islamic countries to take part in it... and see that religious and moral values are represented in the resolution," he said. Hardline Iranian newspapers have condemned the conference as anti-Islamic and called on the government to boycott it. "The (draft) proposal calls for sexual equality among men and women. This sounds fine on the surface but it really means that if a man can have several women then a woman too can have several men," Kar-Va-Kargar newspaper said on Friday.

## Fresh from Damascus summit, Hariri reshuffles cabinet

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Prime Minister Rafik Hariri has reshuffled his cabinet after lengthy summit talks between Syria and Lebanon, the presidential palace announced Saturday. The shakeup brought no major changes in the policies of Mr. Hariri's half-Christian, half-Muslim cabinet formed in October 1992 to rebuild Lebanon after the 1975-90 civil war. The main loser was Interior Minister Bishara Merhej, who has been at odds with the premier. The reshuffle was announced after President Elias Hrawi, Mr. Hariri and Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri returned from a day-long summit talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad and senior aides in Damascus Friday. Syria is the undisputed power in Lebanon. Sources close to Mr. Hariri, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the reshuffle was primarily aimed at harmonising the cabinet and improving its performance after intensified criticism from Mr. Hariri's opponents. A statement from Mr. Hrawi's press office said that Mr. Merhej, a Greek Orthodox and pro-Syrian leftist, was removed as interior minister without portfolio. Mr. Merhej, 49, was replaced by Deputy Prime Minister Michel Murr, 52, another Greek Orthodox. Mr. Murr, a close Hariri ally, retains his other position. Mr. Merhej has been scrapping with Mr. Hariri over the handling of domestic affairs, including the thorny issue of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah, or Party of God. Mr. Hariri objected to Mr. Merhej allowing the Shiite Muslim fundamentalists, who oppose Middle East peace talks and Mr. Hariri, to stage protests in Beirut. In one demonstration last September, troops shot dead nine Hizbollah activists. Mr. Merhej told the leftist As Safir daily he will consult with friends and allies before deciding whether or not to stay in the cabinet. In another move, state minister without portfolio Shahe Barsoumian, 40, an Armenian Christian, was named social affairs minister. That post had been held by Elie Hobeika, 39, a Maronite Catholic and former militia leader, who retains his other portfolio as minister of water and hydraulic resources. In May, Mr. Hariri tried to oust Merhej and Information Minister Michel Samaha — who was not involved in Saturday's reshuffle — but was unable to change his cabinet because of opposition from Mr. Hariri. The premier went on strike for a week, paralysing the government. He went back to work after visiting Damascus. Mr. Hariri, a self-made billionaire tycoon, has been credited with stabilising the Lebanese currency and improving security conditions as well as the nation's war-shattered infrastructure. But he has failed to harness runaway inflation and soaring living costs. Mr. Assad's spokesman, Joubran Korieb, said the Syrian and Lebanese leaders agreed during Friday's eight-hour meeting in Damascus to maintain a united position in peace talks with Israel. They also agreed to stick to the land-for-peace principle set out in Madrid in 1991 at the outset of the Middle East peace process, Mr. Korieb said. Mr. Assad and Mr. Hrawi regularly meet in Damascus to mull-over the peace talks with Israel and bilateral relations, but Friday's session was particularly long. The Lebanese media have said that Beirut and Damascus feel they must coordinate their position since the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Jordan signed accords with Israel over the last year. Syria and Lebanon are now the only Arab states on Israel's border still technically at war with the Jewish state. Egypt signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

## Jordan heading towards convertible dinar — Nabulsi

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's monetary policies are now steadily heading towards the transformation of the dinar into a convertible currency, benefiting trade exchanges, according to Central Bank Governor Mohammad Saeed Nabulsi. But Dr. Nabulsi said in a working paper he presented to a meeting in Tunis recently that such a step can be no means give free conversion power to capital, something which can only be achieved at an advanced stage when certain conditions have been met. The paper, presented to an annual meeting of the Council of Central Bank Governors of the Arab World, said capital will be totally free to convert once the country has been able to control financial deficits. He noted that until that stage has been reached certain aspects of capital exchange can be freed if that policy proves feasible like allowing free movement of funds from and into the occupied West Bank with a view to benefiting from the investment momentum expected there. The positive aspects of a freely convertible dinar, Dr. Nabulsi said, can help raise the efficiency of services provided by the local financial sectors, enabling local institutions to diversify their activities abroad. Such move would also enable institutions to adopt new administrative and technological skills and would enable residents in the country to keep diversified assets escaping possible monetary upheavals, he added. A convertible dinar would enable Jordan to have easy access to international financial markets and would enable capital to flow into the Jordanian market, according to Dr. Nabulsi. Referring to Jordan's obligations towards the International Monetary Fund, (IMF), Dr. Nabulsi said honouring of article eight of the agreement with the IMF can be by no means affect the country's request for rescheduling foreign debts in the future. On the contrary, he said, that would have its positive effect as it would help free current expenses from constraints, and later help liberate capital, something which would crown current national efforts towards economic reform. Dr. Nabulsi said that the IMF requires that all restrictions affecting wages and commodity prices be removed and that the country adopt an integrated taxation system and also stabilise the local banking system. Article 8, Dr. Nabulsi added, demands that Jordan develop new financial instruments and wise monetary and financial policies designed to reduce the margin of difference between the local and foreign financial markets.

## Thirty 'repentant' Muslim militants freed

CAIRO (AFP) — Thirty suspected Muslim militants who "renounced extremist thought" were freed from Egyptian jails on Saturday, police said. The release brings to 90 the number of suspected militants released since last May. None of those freed Saturday were involved in murder or attempted murder, but were "accused of joining armed militant groups," police said. They did not reveal to which groups the released men belonged. The Egyptian media, which is largely government-controlled, last month broadcast seminars organised by the interior ministry during which several "repentant" extremists denounced Muslim militant groups and urged colleagues to abandon their beliefs. Interior Minister Hassan Al Ali said he was "ready to free all militants who announce their repentance."

## Russia urges Chechen president to resign

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Russia called on Saturday on the president of rebel Chechnya to resign to avert civil war and urged free parliamentary elections in its troubled southern region, the official ITAR-TASS news agency said. A Russian government statement said armed conflict had pushed the breakaway region to the brink of civil war and urged its president, Dzhokhar Dudayev, to step down. Russia has openly supported a Chechen opposition grouping led by Umar Avturkhanov, which had announced plans to topple Gen. Dudayev. "The Russian government appeals to the Chechen people to show restraint and not to give in to any provocation by Dudayev and his entourage," said the statement, published by Tass. "Dudayev must resign peacefully," it said. "It is clear that attempts to concentrate power in one man's hands has led to the escalation in tension and violence. Therefore free parliamentary elections must be held and a new government must be formed." Russian and Chechen news agencies on Friday published conflicting accounts of fighting between Chechen government forces and opposition groups and reported several people killed. But there was no independent confirmation. Moscow, after a series of hijacks by ethnic Chechens, last month accused Gen. Dudayev of turning the republic into a hideaway for criminals and said it would not tolerate this any further. Gen. Dudayev, a former Soviet air-force general, declared his tiny north Caucasus republic independent from Russia in 1991. The "interior minister" of Chechnya said Saturday that armed units loyal to the president had taken about 100 opposition prisoners and seized several armoured vehicles in clashes. Ayuh Satuyev said in future "there would be no more massive attacks" by the opposition, after Friday's fighting, even if it could "continue with localised attacks," the interfax news agency reported. The opposition — one of whose factions, the Provisional Council, is openly backed by Russia — is demanding the resignation of Gen. Dudayev.

## Prosecution provides evidence linking defendants to bombings

AMMAN (AP) — Prosecutors Saturday presented evidence that homemade explosives found at the homes of a group of Muslim extremists were used in a wave of bombings of porn cinemas and liquor stores. Prosecution witness Lt. Ali Naim, 30, told a military court that primitive bombs were part of efforts to cleanse the society of values that contravene Islamic teachings. The 25 militants, who may not be named under court regulations, face the death penalty on charges that they plotted to destabilise the Kingdom by violent means and set up a purist Islamic state. During Saturday's one-hour session, Mr. Nour said the Jan. 26 Rivoli bomb and the Feb. 1 Salwa bomb, as well as a third one found in a liquor shop in the northwestern village of Safout earlier this year, were all made of acetone peroxide, which explodes from prolonged exposure to sunlight. In addition to charges that the militants were behind the bombing wave, they are also accused of intriguing to sabotage the U.S.-backed Middle East peace process.

## U.N. team makes fresh inspection of Iraq's sites

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — A team of U.N. inspectors returned Saturday from inspecting fresh Iraqi sites that may be brought under long-term monitoring to ensure the Iraqis do not try to revive an aborted biological weapons programme. "We looked at declared and undeclared sites, we looked at sites that have been inspected previously and some that have not been inspected previously," said David Huxsoll, the American leader of an 8-member U.N. team of biological weapons experts. "The information that we found will be useful to the United Nations in making additional decisions" on the monitoring process, he told reporters at the Bahrain-based regional base of the inspectors. Mr. Huxsoll is the 10th team to visit Iraq to track down secret biological weapons programmes, destroy what they find and prepare for a long-term monitoring process. In all, more than 90 U.N. teams of inspectors have been in Iraq since the Gulf war on trips related to the biological as well as nuclear and chemical weapons fields and that of long-range missiles. Biological weapons employ disease-spreading toxins and deadly micro-organisms that could be obtained from makers of medical products such as vaccines, and developed at medical facilities. Mr. Huxsoll pointed out that the developing or producing biological weapons "is a complicated and complex process." Other U.N. teams in the biological field have scanned Iraq's oil industry as well as its medical colleges and research laboratories and even its six national beer breweries for the purpose. All these facilities will be brought under the long-term monitoring umbrella. As far as inspectors have been able to tell, Iraq's biological weapons programme before its defeat in the 1991 Gulf war never passed the research stage.

## Israel, Hizbollah duel in South Lebanon

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (Agencies) — Iranian-backed guerrillas and Israel's militia allies clashed in dusk-to-dawn artillery duels in South Lebanon after a deadly guerrilla ambush, security sources reported Saturday. Two rockets exploded about 100 metres from the Israeli border near the Lebanese town of Rmeish, the sources said. SLA gunners and Israeli tanks hit back with an intermittent bombardment of the Shiite villages of Kafra and Yater. There are also Hizbollah strongholds and the guerrillas retaliated with mortar fire and Katyushas. The sources said no other casualties were reported on either side from the sporadic night-long exchanges, sometimes fought in the glare of parachute flares. In Haifa on Friday, the army commander of Israel's northern region warned Syria against starting a new war, saying it would lose heavily. "Syria is holding peace negotiations but at the same time continues to arm itself, modernise its army and develop its military power," General Yitzhak Mordechai told reporters in the northern town of Haifa. "Syria would be making a very serious error if it started a war against Israel because it would lose the conflict and the price would be terrible," said Gen. Mordechai.

## Carlos lawyers want all charges dropped

PARIS (AFP) — Carlos the Jackal's lawyers said Saturday they would call for all charges against their client to be dropped when he goes before court authorities Monday. Mourad Oussedik, representing Carlos along with Jacques Verges, said the two lawyers had also filed a suit for "kidnapping," "false imprisonment" and "denial of individual liberties" on behalf of their client. The suit was filed Friday because of the manner of his arrest in Sudan and transfer to France, Mr. Oussedik said. Carlos was arrested by Sudanese authorities in Khartoum on Aug. 13 and handed over to French police who flew him to Paris. He has since been held in the Sante prison in the centre of Paris. He is to appear Monday before examining magistrate Judge Jean-Louis Brugiere. The lawyers also released Saturday details of Carlos's version of his arrest. Carlos says that after an operation on his testicles for a varicocele — a condition affecting the spermatic cord in the scrotum — in a private hospital in Khartoum on Aug. 13, the Sudanese officials guarding him took him to a villa outside the centre of the Sudanese capital where he spent the night and the following day. In the night of Aug. 14 to 15 he was attacked by his own guards who handcuffed him and covered his head with a hood, he said. A military doctor gave him an injection which knocked him out, and he was then taken to Khartoum airport on a stretcher, he charged. At the airport, Carlos saw from under his hood an "executive type" aircraft and some Europeans who said nothing. He was then put in a body bag and tied up. On arrival at the military airport of Villacoublay in France he was thrown into a van and transported to the French counter-espionage headquarters, the DST, the lawyers' statement said. France's interior ministry has declined to state the circumstances under which the terrorist was arrested and extradited to France.

## U.N. envoy fails to bring Afghan leaders to talks

ISLAMABAD (R) — Six weeks of efforts by United Nations envoy on Afghanistan Mahmood Mestiri have failed to bring warring Afghan Mujahadeen groups to talks.

"The special mission very much regrets the failure to hold the joint preliminary meeting," a statement issued by the United Nations special mission on Afghanistan said late on Friday night.

"The commitment to peace is not yet sufficiently strong and widespread to overcome inevitable obstacles," the statement said.

But it also said the mission was determined to continue efforts for peace in war-ravaged Afghanistan.

The mission will, however, not be discouraged nor does it intend to pursue the course of peace in Afghanistan.

The failure of the mission was attributed to the refusal by President Burhanuddin Rabbani's alliance to talk to the National Islamic Movement of northern warlord General Abdul Rasheed Dostum, the statement said.

Gen. Dostum is allied to Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar in a Supreme Coordination Council in a war to topple the president.

"However, despite numerous meetings, compromise proposals and formulas, it was in the end not possible to hold this joint preliminary meeting because of the total refusal by the side opposed to the Supreme Coordination Council to include the National Islamic Movement of Afghanistan in such a meeting," the statement said.

Mr. Mestiri, a former Tunisian foreign minister, had a U.N. General Assembly mandate to facilitate the process of rapprochement and reconstruction in Afghanistan through dialogue and negotiations.

It said during six weeks, Mr. Mestiri held intensive and in-depth consultations with the Afghan leadership and reached a conclusion that a joint preliminary meeting of the warring parties was needed to further the peace process.

The Afghan people have suffered enough from the hostilities in their country and their overwhelming desire for peace should not be frustrated any longer, the statement said.

It said the next phase of the peace efforts would be taken in hand in a few weeks time.

The present round of fighting between the forces backing and opposing Mr. Rabbani began on January 1.

About 11,500 people have been killed in the conflict since Mujahadeen guerrillas took over from a collapsed communist government in April 1992.



Palestinian girls sing the Palestinian national Saturday at the Ramallah High school (see story page 12) (AFP photo)

## Yemen Socialists criticise leaders over civil war

By Assem Abdul Mohsen Reuter

SANAA — A report before a meeting of the Yemen Socialist Party on Saturday condemns a separatist attempt by some of its leaders which was crushed in a brief civil war.

The meeting was called to assess the report, which covers the party's future after the disastrous attempt to recreate the former South Yemen during Yemen's two-month civil war.

About 170 YSP members held a procedural session on Thursday, their first post-war meeting in Sanaa to decide on a future course of action and possibly elect a new leadership.

"The war resulted in nothing but destruction, the wasting of the country's resources and the creation of more grudges," the report by a YSP provisional leadership said.

"The declaration of secession was a historical mistake which cannot be justified and is rejected as an attempt to tear Yemen apart again," the report made available to Reuters said in an indirect criticism of YSP leader Ali Salem Al Beidh.

The defeated party has been trying to define its post-war future after the civil war in which Mr. Beidh declared a separatist state in the south.

Mr. Beidh fled Yemen in the final days of the war, when northern forces of President Ali Abdullah Saleh took Aden, declared the capital of the break-away state.

The report said the declaration of separation was "an expression of political failure, national narrow-mindedness."

"Therefore, a condemnation of the military solution should be coupled by condemning all the isolationist tactics which excluded the political solution and contributed to the pushing of the country into the inferno of the devastating war."

The report said it was the responsibility of all political leaders whether inside or outside the government to work together in the aftermath of the war and secession.

The former Marxist YSP is widely expected to remain in opposition when a new Yemen government is formed.

It added that "political peaceful dialogue is the only way to ensure a prosperous future for the country."

The YSP, Mr. Saleh's General People's Congress and the Islamic Party of Parliament Speaker Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussein Al Ahmar formed a coalition government in Yemen, created in 1990 by a merger of Mr. Saleh's North Yemen and Mr. Beidh's South Yemen.

Differences over power-sharing erupted into civil war on May 4. The report blamed YSP leaders for making it possible for their northern opponents to unleash the war.

"The YSP leadership cannot be absolved of responsibility thanks to their wrong tactics which facilitated the rushing towards a military solution... some tactics were even in contrast to the party's ideology and policy," the report said.

## 'Libya barred Carlos'

TRIPOLI (AFP) — Libya turned away international terrorist Carlos the Jackal on two occasions and refused to have any links with him, Foreign Minister Omar Al Muntasser told AFP Saturday.

"We had no links with Carlos. He came here twice and we sent him away both times" during the last three years, Mr. Muntasser said when asked about the possibility of Carlos referring to Libya in his trial.

Carlos, a Venezuelan whose real name is Illich Ramirez Sanchez, was arrested in the Sudanese capital Khartoum on Aug. 13 and taken to France.

Mr. Muntasser also said he "deplored" France's attitude in its dealings with Libya and said Paris was "under pressure" from Washington.

The minister said Tripoli was cooperating fully with French examining magistrate Jean-Louis Bruguiere in his investigation of the bombing of a French UTA plane over Niger in 1989 which killed 170 people, and had invited him to the country to question Libyan suspects.

But a planned visit by the judge to Libya, several months ago fell through the last minute, Tripoli decided that "his arrival in an armed frigate, colonial style" was "unacceptable," Mr. Muntasser said.

The United Nations imposed air traffic and arms embargos on Libya in April 1992 at the request of the United States, Britain and France, after Tripoli refused to hand over two Libyans suspected of involvement in a bomb attack on a U.S. airliner.

The Pan Am plane exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland, in December 1988, killing 270 people.

Mr. Muntasser said Tripoli was going to "put to work" support of all the international organisations while Washington largely ignores such as the Arab League, Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the Non-Aligned Movement, and it in the next U.N. general assembly.

## Ghali in Paris for Mideast talks

PARIS (R) — U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali met a top aide in Paris on Saturday to discuss a wider role for the United Nations in helping Palestinian self-rule, the U.N. said.

Terje Roed Larsen, U.N. special coordinator in the occupied territories, briefed Mr. Boutros-Ghali on talks in Washington on Thursday and Friday to prepare a meeting of donor nations to be chaired by the World Bank in Paris on Sept. 7-9.

The two met "to discuss an enhanced role for the United Nations in the development process in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip," a U.N. statement said.

Palestinian self-rule began in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho in May under



Boutros Ghali the historic Israeli-PLO deal. Mr. Boutros-Ghali was in Paris en route to Cairo where he is to open the U.N. population conference on Monday.

population conference on Monday.

The statement said Dr. Boutros-Ghali and Mr. Larsen, a Norwegian who helped broker the accord on limited Palestinian autonomy, also discussed possible U.N. technical help for administering a Palestinian police force.

In Washington on Friday, State Department spokeswoman Christine Shelly said the Paris meeting was expected to decide what sums donors would grant.

Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) signed an agreement on Monday giving Palestinians in the West Bank control over five spheres of civilian government previously run by Israel, the second phase of a year-old peace deal.

## Finns return home after kidnap ordeal

HELSINKI (R) — Two Finnish tourists who were kidnapped and held for three weeks by Kurdish guerrillas returned home on Saturday saying they had been well treated by their captors.

The pair, Marke Hotakainen and Tuomo Pollari, were detained in southeastern Turkey by the separatist Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK). They were freed on Tuesday in Kangali, a village in the Tunceli province.

"According to them (the PKK), we were their guests. But I was there against my will," Mr. Hotakainen told a news conference at the airport outside Helsinki.

"They were so friendly to us that one couldn't be afraid," Mr. Pollari said, according to the Finnish news agency (STT).

The two men said they had moved from camp to camp during the three weeks with the guerrillas.

Turkish officials had initially suggested the two, both in their 20s and their way to Australia when they were kidnapped, went off willingly with PKK guerrillas.

Finnish authorities, however, insisted the pair had been abducted in an operation reminiscent of previous PKK kidnappings of foreign tourists.

The Finns were abducted by PKK forces, who said the pair were in violation of a PKK order that all travellers to the largely Kurdish region first obtain a "visa."

## Arab NGOs shun controversy at Cairo population conference

By Samia Nakhouli Reuter

CAIRO — Arab delegates have shied away from taking controversial stands in recommendations prepared for submission to the U.N. population conference opening on Monday.

Delegates attending pre-conference meetings of Arab non-governmental organisations (NGOs) dropped or rejected thorny topics in their paper to the international conference of the population and development.

Religion, traditions and rigid governments at home weighed heavily on the thinking of Arabs attending the meetings and influenced a paper agreed upon Friday night, participants said.

Some of the stands that the Arab NGO paper does take are opposed to liberal planks of the controversial draft document on population that is the central topic of the conference.

The Arab NGOs came out opposing the draft's section on sexual freedom for adolescents outside marriage, saying it encourages corruption, immorality and pervertedness to the Arab generations.

"It is blasphemy to give children free sex and have parents approve it. This is a tragedy," said Egyptian gynaecologist Aziz Khattab. "Youths who choose a

filthy path, unacceptable religiously and legally, should not be provided with any care," said another Egyptian delegate.

Giving adolescents confidentiality in family planning was also rejected "so that unmarried girls could not have access to contraceptives."

Panels, attended by 120 delegates from 13 Arab countries, highlighted the cultural gap among Arabs themselves. Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Palestine were more moderate than Egypt and Sudan.

Egyptian delegate Dalia Mahmoud said: "You keep saying girls should not have done this, they should not have sinned, but many unmarried girls are having sex and many are getting pregnant."

"We should not look at them with disdain, we should not punish them and leave them die, we should provide them with a solution."

Delegates from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain, whose countries run on strict religious lines and where the sharia (Islamic law) governs peoples' lives, worried more about the status of women.

Mounira Fakhri of Bahrain, one of the most liberal Gulf states, said women in the Gulf were living in the past.

## Arab women hope conference will break sexuality taboos

By Mona Salem Agence France Presse

CAIRO — Arab women's groups, irked by hostility in some Islamic quarters to next week's U.N. population conference here, are hoping the gathering will help shatter what they say is a taboo on sexuality in the Arab World.

"Abortion, extra-marital relations, rape — they all exist in our societies even if the law does not recognise them," according to Rashida Al Tahri, a teacher from Morocco.

She was speaking following meetings here Thursday and Friday of delegates from around 50 Arab women's organisations ahead of Monday's conference opening.

"Islamic circles equate a better understanding of sexuality with an invitation to permissiveness," she said.

"But in our society such knowledge is necessary, especially as discussions of sexuality are taboo and our school curricula all but ignore it."

"Whether we like it or not, some of our young people have sexual relations before marriage. With a better understanding of their bodies

they can avoid unwanted pregnancies and illegitimate children who end up as orphans.

"In Morocco, women have a special need to be informed about sexuality and to have the right to abortion because they run the risk of going to prison if they have a child out of wedlock. Men assume no responsibility under the law."

Khawla Mattar of Bahrain was sharply critical of "the ambivalence in Arab society" on sexual questions.

"We must avoid the ostrich approach," she insisted. "Modesty is a myth."

"It does no good to ignore reality. The fact that sexuality is a taboo is responsible for many social ills, such as rape within the family," according to Ms. Mattar, who represents the Arab Maternity and Childhood Council.

"In Gulf countries, with their closed societies, sexual frustration and a lack of knowledge mean that our young people focus on sex as soon as they leave the country."

But she added: "With greater courage and openness we can create more balanced citizens."

Egyptian journalist Amina

Shafiq likewise criticised traditional beliefs that attach "shame" to a young woman's body.

"When a girl reaches the age of puberty, her mother warns her against telling her father she has her period."

"Some teachers in our schools refuse to teach lessons dealing with genitalia, even though sexual health is part of one's overall health."

Ms. Shafiq insisted that "the debate about sexuality is distorted. They (Islamic critics of the conference) would do better to try to help couples who, lacking in resources and education, have sexual relations in front of their children in the family's one and only room."

Anna Derar, representing Sudan's Al Ahfad (The Grandchildren) association, said one of the most sinister consequences of sexual ignorance was the practice of female excision, widespread in northern Sudan, in which a young girl has her clitoris removed and her vagina sewed up.

"Such practices will only disappear with a long process of socio-economic development," she argued.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Fundamentalists staged public killing of "collaborators"**

ALGIERS (AFP) — Islamic fundamentalists have killed two young men they accused of collaborating with the security forces, slitting their throats as a crowd of villagers looked on, a letter to the Le Matin daily claimed Saturday.

The letter writer, who preferred to remain anonymous, said the killing took place before evening prayers in a Sunday outside the Larbaa mosque in the village of Bougara. There was no independent corroboration of the killing. The letter writer said the two men, were bound gagged and had their eyes covered as they were paraded in front of a crowd and condemned as "collaborators with the security forces and the oppressors."

The men's captors accused one man of being involved in torturing his fundamentalist "brothers." Another man then ordered one of the captives to kneel. When he refused, he knocked the man to the ground, the letter claimed. "The man held him down with his knees, pulled back his chin and slit his throat with a knife," it said. The second captive, a young blond man, then lay down on the tarmac and was killed the same way. The two bodies were left lying on the road until early the next morning, the letter said.

**Indian man burns himself to death in jobs protest**

NEW DELHI (R) — A 27-year-old man died on Saturday after setting himself on fire in protest against a job quota system that favours the underprivileged in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, the Press Trust of India said.

Sunil Saxena, 27, died in a Delhi hospital after suffering burns over 95 per cent of his body from Friday's self-immolation protest, the news agency reported. At least 10 people have died in the past week, including at least six on Friday, in demonstrations calling for an end to the job policy and for the establishment of a separate state in the Himalayan foothills, it said. More than 200 people have been injured in clashes with police that prompted the state government to order an indefinite curfew throughout the region. Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao held an emergency meeting with Internal Security Minister Rajesh Pilot on Saturday to discuss the situation in Uttar Pradesh, India's most populous state.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

**PROGRAMME TWO**

17:00 ..... L'Unité  
17:30 ..... News in French  
18:45 ..... Fault Pas Rever  
19:00 ..... News in Hebrew  
19:30 ..... FBI: Unsold Stories  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Step By Step  
21:00 ..... Quotidian Leap  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:30 ..... Snowy River

### PEAYER TIMES

04:47 ..... Fajr  
06:07 ..... (Sunrise) Duha  
12:35 ..... Dhuhur  
16:18 ..... Asr  
19:43 ..... Maghrib  
20:23 ..... Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church  
Switzerland, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.  
612785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terresanta Church Tel. 622306  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
623541  
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel.  
628543.

### Armenian Catholic Church Tel.

771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.  
775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751  
Armenian International Church Tel.  
625236  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.  
824328  
German-speaking Evangelical Con-  
gregation Tel. 694195  
The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932  
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691  
The Evangelical Local Church in  
Amman  
Tel. 811295

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Depart-  
ment of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather condi-  
tions will prevail with winds north-  
westerly moderate. In Amman,  
winds will be northerly moderate  
and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.  
Amman ..... 19/31  
Aqaba ..... 25/39  
Cesari ..... 18/25  
Jordan Valley ..... 25/38

Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 29, Aqaba 37 Humidity  
readings: Amman 42 per cent,  
Aqaba 26 per cent.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Adnan Zaghlool ..... 898140  
Dr. Jamal Ja'ari ..... 796460  
Dr. Hisham Kan'an ..... 790286  
Dr. Wasil Al Mian ..... 675485  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdous pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asma pharmacy ..... 637055  
Nairookh pharmacy ..... 626672  
Al Salan pharmacy ..... 636750  
Yaacoub pharmacy ..... 646495  
Shamsani pharmacy ..... 637660  
Nairookh pharmacy ..... 626672  
Najib pharmacy ..... 847632

REID:  
Dr. Fayez Al Qadi ..... 248743  
Aqidi pharmacy ..... 1-)

ZARQA:  
Dr. Tareq Hijawi ..... 985445  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ..... 637111  
Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate ..... 661111

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 13813/32  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 64281/6

Rescue ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police 192 ..... 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 617401  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 63031  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage ..... 897467  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Amman Municipality ..... 787111  
Telephone Information ..... 121  
Directory assistance ..... 63031  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615

Electric Power  
Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 08-53200  
Queen Alia Int. Airport ..... 08-53200

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
This information is supplied by

Akileh Maternity, J. Amn. 642441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642622  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shamsani ..... 664171/4  
Shamsani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Al-Mustashir Hospital ..... 667221/9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/37  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajiree ..... 771013/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 775111/26  
Army, Marja ..... 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 602240/50  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09) 983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... 674155  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09) 900560  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02) 72725  
Al Hikma Modern Hospital ..... (09) 909090  
IBRID:  
Princess Bama Hospital ..... (02) 273555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02) 72725  
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital ..... (02) 247100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03) 314111

### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:30 ..... Bangkok (RJ)  
08:15 ..... Amman (RJ)  
09:30 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
10:15 ..... Laraca (RJ)  
10:50 ..... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
11:00 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
11:15 ..... Madrid (RJ)  
11:25 ..... Paris (RJ)  
12:25 ..... Istanbul (RJ)  
12:50 ..... London (RJ)  
13:30 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
14:25 ..... Vienna (RJ)  
15:00 ..... Rome (RJ)  
15:20 ..... Cairo (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

04:20 ..... Anatolia (TK)  
13:30 ..... Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)  
14:25 ..... Moscow (SU)  
19:45 ..... Laraca (CY)  
20:20 ..... Cairo (MS)

### DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:00 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
06:30 ..... Madrid (RJ)  
06:45 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
09:45 ..... Frankfurt (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Vienna (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
12:40 ..... Istanbul (RJ)  
12:45 ..... Cologne, Tunis (RJ)  
13:00 ..... Athens (RJ)  
13:30 ..... Muscat (add) (RJ)  
13:45 ..... Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)  
14:05 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Riyadh (RJ)  
15:00 ..... Doha (add) (RJ)  
15:15 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
15:25 ..... Singapore, Jakarta (RJ)  
15:45 ..... New Delhi (RJ)  
16:05 ..... Doha, Muscat (RJ)  
16:20 ..... Bangkok (RJ)  
16:30 ..... Doha (add) (RJ)  
16:50 ..... Damascus (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:15 ..... Anatolia (TK)  
07:20 ..... Rome (AZ)  
14:30 ..... Doha, Muscat (GF)  
16:05 ..... Moscow (SU)  
19:45 ..... Laraca (CY)  
20:20 ..... Doha (add) (GF)

### HIJAZ RAILWAY

Dep. Amman ..... 8:00 a.m. every Monday  
Arr. Damascus ..... 5:00 p.m. every Monday  
Dep. Damascus ..... 7:30 a.m. every Sunday  
Arr. Amman ..... 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in lbs per kg

Apple ..... 650/400  
Banana ..... 120/80  
Banana (Mukammal) ..... 120/80  
Cabbage ..... 380/240  
Carrot ..... 250/200  
Cauliflower ..... 250/200  
Cucumbers (large) ..... 400/300  
Cucumbers (small) ..... 400/300  
Eggplant ..... 200/150  
Garlic ..... 500/300  
Grapes ..... 400/300  
Guava ..... 200/150  
Lemon ..... 200/150  
Marrow (large) ..... 200/150  
Marrow (small) ..... 200/150  
Multishrub ..... 400/300  
Onion (dry) ..... 200/150  
Sweet Melon ..... 200/150  
Pepper (hot) ..... 200/150  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 200/150  
Potato ..... 200/150  
Peaches ..... 200/150  
Tomato ..... 200/150  
String beans ..... 200/150  
Watermelon ..... 100/50

### LECTURE

Lecture in Arabic entitled "On the Latera-

ture of Children" by Mr. M. Al-Tawash

based at Abdel Razek Shaban Palace

at Al-Tah. Tel. 6411

at Al-Tah. Tel. 6411

at Al-Tah. Tel. 6411

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at Al-Tah. Tel. 6411



## Bosnian Serbs threaten to blockade Muslim enclaves

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (Agencies) — Cut off by his former patrons in Serbia, the leader of Bosnia's Serbs threatened to retaliate by blocking vital aid to Muslim enclaves.

In another ominous sign for Muslims, U.N. officials said Friday that Serb rebels appear to be in the final stages of a campaign to force the remaining non-Serbs out of parts of northern and northeastern Bosnia.

The blockade threat by Radovan Karadzic reflected his leadership's desperation a month after Serbia cut support in an attempt to have crippling U.N. trade sanctions lifted.

"Even a bird will not be able to fly across until the world forces Yugoslavia to lift its economic sanctions against us," Mr. Karadzic told an assembly of Bosnian Serbs late Thursday.

Serbia and Montenegro are the only remaining republics in Yugoslavia, the supplies from Serbia were the lifeline that sustained the rebel Serbs during their 29-month-long war.

The war broke out in 1992 when Bosnia's minority Serbs revolted against a vote by Muslims and Bosnian Croats to secede from Yugoslavia. Serbia's president, Slobodan Milosevic, has rejected international demands for monitors on the border between Bosnia and Serbia, but the embargo appears to be serious.

"No one in the world expected Yugoslavia to introduce... sanctions against us," Mr. Karadzic told the assembly of Bosnian Serbs in Pale, east of Sarajevo. He said this gave Bosnian Serbs the same right to impose sanctions against others.

He also told the international community it "can start drawing up a new peace plan."

It was the Bosnian Serbs' rejection of the latest Bos-

nian peace plan that touched off Serbia's embargo. Serbia hopes to end the U.N. sanctions against Yugoslavia by backing the Bosnian Serbs into a corner and forcing them to accept the plan.

Bosnian Serbs have rebuffed the plan because it would require them to relinquish about one-third of the 70 per cent of Bosnia they seized during the war. The remaining 51 per cent would go to a Muslim-Croat federation, which has accepted the proposal.

Bosnia's Muslim prime minister, Haris Silajdzic, said Mr. Karadzic's threat was "nothing new."

"He keeps threatening that," Mr. Silajdzic said. "It's never-ending. And the U.N. keeps sending delegations to talk to them, even while he is openly threatening Bosnia. It is obvious that the international community has no answer to open genocide."

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees — the main agency delivering aid to Muslim enclaves in Bosnian Serb-held areas — did not shrug off the threat.

"UNHCR makes no bones about it: The enclaves are on an umbilical cord," said spokesman Peter Kessler in Sarajevo. "The Serbs control what goes in and out."

The most vulnerable enclaves are Srebrenica, Zepa and Gorazde in eastern Bosnia. The Bosnian government maintains that because of previous blockades, deliveries are down to 98 grammes of food a day per person in Srebrenica.

But Mr. Kessler said there wasn't any immediate threat of starvation. He said 80 per cent of planned U.N. deliveries got through in July, and a similar amount in August.

He also reiterated U.N. concern about continuing Serb expulsions of Muslims from northern Bosnia. As many as 600 people crossed the front line between Serb-



General Andre Soubirou (right) of France, UNPROFOR commander of the Sarajevo region, escorts Vatican Ambassador to Bosnia Francesco Montaris (center) from his plane after his arrival in Sarajevo. Mr. Montaris is preparing the scheduled visit of Pope John Paul II (AFP photo).

held Bijeljina and government-controlled Tuzla early Friday, he said.

Some refugees said they were loaded into buses at the Bijeljina train station. Along the way, the local Serb commander, Vojislav Djurkovic, had buses with empty seats stop so more Muslims could be forced out of their homes to fill them, the refugees said.

Since July 17, about 1,700 Muslims had been forced from Bijeljina and nearby Janja, said Mr. Kessler. There were believed to be fewer than 1,000 left in the area, and more refugees were expected in Tuzla over the weekend.

Expulsions have increased since July, when Bosnian Serb leaders first rejected the latest peace plan.

About 200,000 people have been reported killed or mis-

sing in the war.

Also Friday, mediators Lord Owen of the European Community and Thorvald Stoltenberg of the United Nations said they would go to Serbia on Sunday to meet with Mr. Milosevic. They also planned to go to Montenegro and Croatia.

In Macedonia, another breakaway Yugoslav republic, one person was shot in the arm Friday on the tense border with Serbia, the third such incident in two weeks.

The shooting occurred near Tanusevci, 25 kilometres north of the Macedonian capital, Skopje. It was not clear who fired.

Meanwhile, a Vatican envoy planned to hold talks with Bosnian Serb leaders on Saturday to discuss security concerns over Pope John Paul's visit to Sarajevo next week.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, whose forces surround Sarajevo, has so far refused to guarantee the Pope's safety. He has alleged that Muslim-led government troops might stage an attempt on the Pope's life and try to blame it on Serb forces.

"Nuncio (Francesco) Montaris will meet Dr. Karadzic in Pale on Saturday afternoon to discuss the security issue," Viktor Andreev, head of U.N. Civil Affairs in Bosnia, said on Friday.

Mr. Andreev, who served as an intermediary in setting up the meeting in the Serb stronghold of Pale outside Sarajevo, said its outcome would be crucial in deciding whether adequate security could be provided for the Pope's trip.

The 74-year Pontiff plans to visit Sarajevo next Thursday, when he is expected to celebrate an outdoor mass for 25,000 people in a stadium used for the 1984 Olympic speed skating competition, a Vatican spokesman said this week.

But security issues still overshadow planning for the visit and many in the Bosnian capital fear the Pontiff may be forced to cancel at the last moment.

Orthodox Serbs have often accused the Pope of siding with Roman Catholic Croats in the conflict in former Yugoslavia.

Meanwhile, U.N. aid officials warned of a humanitarian disaster if Mr. Karadzic carried out a threat to cut food and utility supplies to areas held by Muslim and Croat-backed government forces.

Mr. Karadzic has threatened to cut off gas, power, water and food to Muslim and Croat areas until Serbian-led Yugoslavia ends an embargo against his people.

"There would be zero (supplies) and there would be hardship on all sides," said Mr. Kessler.

"In Bosnia, threats are a way of life but we hope these threats are not carried out," Mr. Kessler said that the Bosnian Serbs could block more than 8,000 tonnes a month of relief supplies bound for Sarajevo and eastern Muslim enclaves by halting road convoys and stopping the relief airlift to the Bosnian capital.

Diplomats interpreted Mr. Karadzic's threat as a sign that the embargo was beginning to bite.

Major powers have asked Mr. Milosevic to accept international monitoring of his blockade in exchange for an easing of sanctions on rump Yugoslavia.

Asked about the possible deployment of foreign monitors on the Serbian-Bosnian border, Mr. Karadzic refrained from criticising Belgrade.

"This is strictly an internal issue for Yugoslavia. We have no intention to interfere. As far as we are concerned the embargo is being complied with, if it's any help for anybody," he told reporters late on Friday.

In northern Bosnia, international aid officials reported on Friday that Bosnian Serbs had driven several hundred Muslims from their homes in yet another wave of ethnic expulsions.

About 750 Muslims had to cross front lines northeast of Tuzla to reach safety in the Bosnian government-held area after they were expelled from the Bijeljina region, said a U.N. peacekeeping officer.

"They had been on the road for about 24 hours since being expelled from their homes and they had to walk the last eight kilometres. Some of the elderly had to be carried across on stretchers," said the officer, who asked not to be named.

## NATO plays down first French attendance since 1966

BRUSSELS (AFP) — NATO Saturday played down the significance of Paris's decision to attend a meeting of NATO defence ministers later this month for the first time in almost 30 years and said it was entirely "normal."

French Defence Minister Francois Leotard is scheduled to attend an informal meeting of his North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) opposite number in Seville, Spain at the end of this month.

Speaking Saturday, a NATO source, who asked not to be named, said, "We would be astonished if France did not take part in this particular meeting. It is an informal meeting where we will be discussing subjects such as Bosnia."

With 6,000 soldiers in Bosnia, France has the biggest contingent in the U.N. peacekeeping force in the former Yugoslav state.

France has boycotted NATO meetings since 1966 when then president Charles de Gaulle pulled his country's forces out of the organisation's integrated command, claiming it was dominated by the United States.

Successive French governments have followed this line. "It will not be a meeting of the planning committee," the NATO source said, adding Mr. Leotard's attendance "does not mean France is going to re-join the integrated command."

"The French must decide one step at a time" if they are ready to fully rejoin NATO said the same source, adding "they will always be welcome."

During a summit meeting of the 16 NATO heads of state in January, France said it would occasionally consider sending its defence minister or chief of staff to NATO meetings.

At the time, Paris made clear such decisions would be made on a case-by-case basis.

On Friday French President Francois Mitterrand's spokesman, Jean Musiel, confirmed France still wanted to remain outside NATO's integrated command.

The International Herald Tribune newspaper said Saturday Mr. Leotard's visit showed a shift towards greater realism in French policy which would please other NATO member governments.

## China and Russia pledge trade partnership

MOSCOW (AFP) — The president of China and Russia met Saturday to end their nuclear standoff, settle a dispute over their immense border and set up conditions for a booming trade partnership, Kremlin officials said.

The accord signed by presidents Jiang Zemin and Boris Yeltsin at the Kremlin were billed as a blueprint for Chinese-Russian cooperation well into the 21st century.

Mr. Jiang's Russia visit was the first by a Chinese president since Mao Zedong in 1957 and cemented a substantial improvement in relations between the two former communist rivals that began in the 1980s.

During the meeting Mr. Jiang invited Yeltsin to China and said he regarded him as "an old friend," ITAR-TASS reported.

The two leaders agreed to deter each other's sites and not to launch a first nuclear strike, a Yeltsin spokesman told AFP.

The agreement on a 55-kilometre section of the western end of the Chinese-Russian border, came within a fraction of ending a century-old dispute over the 4,400-kilometre frontier.

The eastern end of the



Chinese leader Jiang Zemin stands at attention after laying a wreath at the Tomb of Unknown Soldier, in Moscow (AFP photo).

border, the scene of heavy fighting in 1969, remains unresolved.

Talks on Russian arms sales to China were not announced, but weapons are one of Russia's most successful exports and negotiations were to take place, sources told AFP in Beijing.

The two presidents also signed a joint declaration pledging to fully exploit potential trade and scientific cooperation.

"Maximum advantage must be taken of the geographical proximity, the character of the economies and the way they complement each other," the statement said, according to Interfax.

The declaration stressed that trade relations must be backed up by an adequate legal framework, something the Russian government admits is currently sorely lacking.

Total trade volume between the two giant neighbours reached \$7.7 billion in 1993 but exports from both countries have dropped by more than a third so far this year, almost reversing last year's gains, Russian officials said.

The slump comes amid moves by both countries to update primitive barter trading methods, border controls and transport networks.

Last year an estimated 64

per cent of trade was carried out through barter deals and Russian authorities are increasingly concerned by the flood of illegal Chinese immigrants and poor quality consumer goods.

There are 27,000 Chinese registered in Russia, although migration experts put the real number at between 180,000 and 200,000. In Moscow alone there are an estimated 10,000 Chinese, many of them living illegally and selling cheap consumer goods in marketplaces.

Problems in transporting goods doomed a quarter of all contracts last year, according to Russia's minister for economic relations, Oleg Davydov.

After decades of mistrust and military tension along the frontier, relations entered a thaw with Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev's historic visit to Beijing in 1989, followed by Mr. Yeltsin's visit in 1992.

"Relations, after some zig-zag developments during a number of years, have gradually developed into a mature relationship," the spokesman for China's foreign ministry quoted Mr. Jiang as saying at a press conference Saturday.

## Explosives taking daily toll, no major demining under way

KIGALI, Rwanda (AP) — Ulyse Gashamaza, 11, had just returned home to Kigali with his family after years of exile. Strolling in the garden, one unlucky step cost him his left leg and his right eye.

As 10-year-old Mbonigaba gathered firewood in a forest near his house in northwestern Rwanda, a mine explosion tore off one of his legs and gouged his face.

Grace Mubashemana, 9, also strayed onto one of the estimated 50,000 mines sown in this country torn by war and vengeance. Her right leg is so mangled that an artificial leg will be very difficult to fit. Her body is wrapped in bandages. There is danger of infection.

"In all the damn wars I've been to, she was one of the most pitiful sights," says Dr. Ricardo Ribas, standing beside the sleeping girl as he describes how the explosion embedded mud, grass, insects and shrapnel into her body.

These children are certainly not the last of Rwanda's mine victims. Each day, between two and six casualties are recorded, and neither the international community nor the new Rwandan government has begun to clear the mines.

Rwanda is the latest killing field of leftover mines, which

cause about 800 civilian deaths per month worldwide, the Red Cross says. Up to 100 million land mines, usually remnants of civil wars, are scattered in more than 50 countries.

In nearby Angola, some 9 million mines lie in wait. In Mozambique, the United Nations' mine-clearing operation could take as long as 10 years.

Although a U.N. mine-clearing plan was drawn up last month for Rwanda, the search for an initial \$4.3 million to finance it and contractors to carry it out is expected to take until late this year or early 1995. Clearance by the U.N. has been largely restricted to protecting its own peacekeeping troops.

"Mine clearance is needed on roads, in urban and rural areas, and mine awareness training is needed for all," the plan says. It calls for civilian experts to be hired for surveying mined areas, destroying explosives and training 150 Rwandans to clear mines.

Capt. Mark Hurston, who heads the four-man U.N. Mine Action headquarters, said large numbers of mines were laid last year in northern parts of Rwanda by the former Hutu government and the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front rebel.

By the time the war and massacres ended in mid-July with a rebel victory, unmarked and unmapped mines, booby traps and other explosive devices were strewn around the countryside. Kigali, the capital, is awash with them.

"There is nowhere in Kigali where I could put my hand on my heart and say it's safe," Mr. Hurston told reporters recently.

The British officer said anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines being discovered were variously made in Israel, Italy, Belgium, the United States, South Africa and the former Soviet Union.

U.N. peacekeepers — principally British and Canadians — have detonated nearly 1,000 explosives, but they are legally bound to work only to protect their mission. Some information about mine locations, often gathered from relief agencies and journalists, has also been compiled.

Mine victims are often rural people working their fields for gathering wood and water, said Ribas, a Brazilian surgeon with the humanitarian agency Doctors Without Borders.

There are also many cases of little children severely wounded, sometimes in groups of four and five, when



A Rwandan refugee paramedic adjusts his military refugee at an hospital camp in tool to remove a cast from a Rwandan Bukavu, Zaire (AFP photo).

playing with grenades or unexploded shells.

Although a veteran of seven war zones — including Angola, where a vehicle in which he was travelling detonated a mine — Ribas' voice chokes with anger and pity as he walks the wards of the King Faisal Hospital.

"There are far more eye injuries here than we had in Angola or Mozambique," he says. "Some arrive with only a few scratches and two blind eyes."

This is probably due to the widespread use of "butterfly mines" — small explosives that spring up out of the ground before exploding.

Since the only two hospitals in Rwanda capable of treating mine victims are both in Kigali, the wounded must sometimes travel for days before receiving treatment, their limbs already infected and beginning to rot.

After surgery and recuperation, amputees are taken to Kigali Central Hospital, where the agency Handicap International has recently

opened the country's only prosthetic and physiotherapy centre.

Using mainly local materials, four Rwandan technicians fashion simple artificial legs and crutches for the amputees.

One amputee, Mambo Morakezi, works out daily on an exercise machine, hoping to bring some strength back to what is left of his two legs.

Entering the vestibule of his home, the 42-year-old taxi driver was struck by a blast

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Entering the vestibule of his home, the 42-year-old taxi driver was struck by a blast

## Tribal court banishes teens for robbery

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (R) — A tribal court sentenced two Alaskan Indians Friday to at least a year of banishment on separate uninhabited islands for a brutal robbery, a tribal official said.

Adrian Guthrie and Simon Roberts, both 18, "will put out for 12 to 18 months," said Byron Skinna, a Tlingit Indian who was part of the 11-member court that deliberated for two days over the case.

The case drew international attention after a state judge in Everett, Washington, agreed to free them to face traditional native justice in their hometown of Klawock, Alaska, rather than go to prison.

Some tribal members say the court was set up without proper authority by Rudy James, a tribal member who negotiated their release by promising they would pay restitution and serve a traditional tribal sentence.

Others in the southeastern Alaskan village of 800 people say banishment has never been a traditional punishment for the Tlingit, Alaska's largest tribe with 20,000 members.

Jim Townsend, the Snohomish County prosecutor in the case, said Mr. James had consistently misled the court where the youths pleaded guilty to the August 1993 assault and robbery of pizza delivery man Tim Whittlesey.

The victim was beaten so badly with a baseball bat in the attack near Seattle that he lost his hearing in one ear and nearly died, prosecutors said. The youth Roberts and Guthrie, who testified before the tribal court that they were drunk at the time, got \$40 and a pizza.

Mr. Townsend, who sought sentence of three to five years in the case, is appealing the decision made by superior court Judge James Allenderoerfer, citing "reverse racism," referring to what he called special treatment given the two youths because of their ethnic heritage.

Mr. Skinna defended the ceremony-filled, tribal court proceeding in Klawock, the only one in recent memory. He said the two youths will be sent out as early as Saturday to undisclosed islands, where they will be given tools and training and help building shelter for the winter and then monitored periodically.

"Their main task is to rehabilitate themselves by looking at their own soul and finding out where the good is... so they can be good people," he said.

Mr. Skinna said rehabilitation was impossible in jail, where the two youths spent a year awaiting sentencing.

Mr. Skinna also said Mr. Whittlesey, 25, who appeared at the hearing and has supported the experiment, will be given two parcels of Alaskan land and paid an undisclosed amount of cash in restitution.

Mr. Allenderoerfer has ordered Guthrie and Roberts to return to his court in March 1994 to determine whether they have been punished adequately.

## British child support chief quits

LONDON (R) — Opponents of a government agency which orders absent fathers to pay for their children were jubilant on Saturday at the resignation of its head, dubbed by some newspapers as the most hated woman in Britain.

Ros Hepplewhite, 41, stepped down from her job at the Child Support Agency on Friday with 18 months of her contract still to run, admitting it has been "an exceptionally demanding post."

Opponents of the agency accuse it of making unfair demands on fathers who already pay some maintenance, and not pursuing others who escape their responsibilities with enough vigour.

They say at least five people have committed suicide after it ordered them to make payments they could not afford.

Didi Rossi, a spokeswoman for the pressure group campaign against the Child Support Act, said Ms. Hepplewhite's decision to quit was "a great victory."

The agency, which British newspapers have accused of working more to save the government money in welfare than to help single mothers, has admitted teething problems.

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## Hopes fade for survivors in coal tunnels

MANILA (AFP) — Hopes dimmed Saturday that additional survivors would be found more than five days after the Philippines' worst coal mine disaster, even as navy frogmen were sent to search flooded tunnels. A spokesman for military forces in the southern Philippines said that the death toll from the blast at the Malangas coal mine had risen to 93 with the discovery of one more body and the death of one of those injured in the explosion. But a spokeswoman for the state-run Philippine National Oil Co., which operates the mine, said that so far, 73 bodies have been extracted from the mine and only nine miners were still missing. However, she said that rescuers had seen the bodies of eight more people in the tunnel, although they have not been able to remove them yet. The explosion has been blamed on methane gas that leaked into the mine although it is still unclear what ignited the gas.

'French student raped by Indian policemen'

NEW DELHI (AFP) — A French student was gang-raped by men believed to be police officers after she was kidnapped from the home of friends in the northern Indian city of Chandigarh, newspapers reported here. Five or six police acting as bodyguards for a politician allegedly seized the 20-year-old from the home of her Kenyan friends on the night of Aug. 31 and raped her in another house, the Hindustan Times and other dailies said. One of the Kenyans was quoted as saying that the abductors were armed with AK-47 assault rifles. The woman escaped her captors the next morning and told her friends she had been raped. But under pressure from the police, she charged her abductors only with a less serious count of molestation, the newspapers said. The French embassy said it was aware of the case but could not confirm the girl's nationality. Police sources in Chandigarh, capital of the state of Punjab, said the women's complaint was under investigation. The Asian Age daily said she was "extremely traumatised... and desperate to return to France."

## Global warming meets with foot-dragging

GENEVA (AP) — Foot-dragging by some governments has dashed hopes for swift action to help prevent global warming, an international environmental group warned Friday. The World Wildlife Fund and other organisations want countries to cut emissions of so-called "greenhouse gases" — thought to cause global warming — by 20 per cent by 2005. But many industrialised nations insist that such drastic action would only destroy the economic growth needed to drive any future environmental progress. At a U.N. conference on changes in world climate wrapped up here Friday, representatives from some 150 countries discussed whether a treaty signed at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro goes far enough in reducing emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide. The treaty now requires developed countries to cut their greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000. Though most governments conceded they're not doing enough to maintain greenhouse gases at safe levels, they were unable to agree how to do more. "We feel the treaty needs to take several small steps before leapingfrogging and going into a wide range of new measures," said John Shlase, executive director of the U.S.-based Global Climate Coalition. "Talking about such things as international energy taxes is really quite extraordinary if you realise the sort of ramifications on nations. Circumstances differ and economies differ," he said. "However, Germany and some other nations say delaying action for several years may be too late. Many environmental groups agree. 'This is an urgent problem that is not going to go away of its own accord,' said WWF official Jyoti Hyvärinen. The tragedy is we have a chance to avert it and we are throwing that chance away." Scientists believe the greenhouse gases, mainly produced by the burning of coal, oil and other fossil fuels, trap the warmth of the sun like glass

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Alaska (R)** — Court sentenced Indians Friday for a brutal robbery. The judge said the 11-year-old boy, who was the victim of the robbery, was "a victim of the system."

**French student raped by Indian policeman** — A French student was raped by an Indian policeman in a hotel in New Delhi. The student was taken to a hospital and is recovering. The policeman was arrested and charged with rape.

**U.N. postpones Security Council expansion** — The United Nations Security Council has postponed its decision on expanding its membership until next year. The council is currently composed of 15 members, and there are 10 non-permanent members rotating for two-year terms.

**U.S.-Cuba talks recess, possible agreement Sunday** — U.S. and Cuban negotiators are expected to reach a possible agreement on Sunday. The talks have been ongoing for several days, and both sides have made significant concessions.

**Suharto positive over Timor dialogue — Mandela** — Indonesian President Suharto is positive about the dialogue with East Timor. He said that the dialogue is a "positive step" towards resolving the conflict in Timor.

**Clinton promises aid for Irish reconciliation** — President Clinton has promised aid for Irish reconciliation. He said that the aid is "a sign of our commitment to peace in Ireland."

**Irish Protestant women demonstrate against IRA** — A group of Irish Protestant women demonstrated against the IRA. They held a protest in front of the IRA headquarters in Belfast, and they carried signs that read "We are not your enemy."

**Italy opposes twin-track Europe option** — Italy opposes the twin-track Europe option. The option would allow for a two-stage process of European integration, with the first stage focusing on economic integration and the second stage focusing on political integration.

**Japan cuts illegal immigration** — Japan has cut its illegal immigration. The number of illegal immigrants in Japan has decreased significantly in recent years, and the Japanese government has implemented measures to prevent further illegal immigration.

## Clinton promises aid for Irish reconciliation

EDGARTOWN, Mass. (Agencies) — President Clinton has promised U.S. aid to promote peace in Northern Ireland but postponed any commitment on the amount until projects have been identified and it's clear whether a ceasefire will last.

Visiting Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring said he was hopeful of "substantial funds" from the U.S. after meeting with Mr. Clinton at his vacation retreat to discuss ways of following up on the Irish Republican Army's ceasefire in Northern Ireland.

But while Mr. Clinton spoke of a U.S. "peace dividend" to promote reconciliation in Northern Ireland, he also mentioned U.S. budgetary restraints to Mr. Spring and said private as well as public aid should be considered, the White House said.

"We will help both politically and economically, but it's premature to put a dollar figure on it," White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers said.

Mr. Clinton told reporters after the 45-minute meeting that the United States would "do whatever we can to help" bring peace to all groups in Northern Ireland.

The aid would be part of the assistance promised by President Clinton this morning, Mr. Spring said. "I would hope that substantial funds would be forthcoming."

The amount would have to be approved by Congress, which has already passed its appropriations bills for the year, so any decisions would have to be made next year, Mr. Spring said.

The United States already contributes \$20 million a year to the International Fund for Ireland. News reports have

## Irish Protestant women demonstrate against IRA

BELFAST (R) — Women from Belfast's Protestant stronghold, pushing prams and clutching children, took to the streets to accuse the British government of selling them out to the IRA.

About 150 women and children marched from the Shankill Road area to a nearby Catholic neighbourhood on Friday night, but police using armoured vehicles as import roadblocks stopped them going further into Catholic areas.

The women vowed to carry on demonstrating until the government proved to them it had not made a secret deal with the Irish Republican Army.

"We think that concessions will come and we will not stand for it. We won't have a united Ireland," said Mary Douglas, who acted as unofficial spokeswoman for the marchers.

"We'll take to the streets, the men and all. We'll fight with them shoulder to shoulder. There will be civil war," Northern Ireland's Protestants, who want the province to stay British, fear the government has struck a covert deal with the IRA that will lead to the fulfilment of the guerrilla group's main demand — transfer of the province to Ireland's control.

They are cynical about the IRA's ceasefire announcement this week and have threatened to use violence themselves to stay British.

The outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF) claimed responsibility for killing a

## U.S.-Cuba talks recess, possible agreement Sunday

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. and Cuban negotiators intend to meet again Sunday and American officials reported progress in negotiations to stop the exodus of thousands of refugees sailing towards Florida in rickety rafts.

American officials described the talks that began Thursday as making progress in reaching a deal on sharply increasing the number of U.S. visas for Cubans if Havana agrees to stop the flight of refugees.

The U.S. Coast Guard Friday plucked 1,270 Cubans out of the Florida straits and took them to the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay on the western tip of Cuba. The number fell from about 1,900 Thursday.

After nearly eight hours of talks Friday, negotiators recessed until Sunday while Cuban envoys led by Ricardo Alarcon, a former foreign minister, studied U.S. proposals.

At issue is a U.S. offer to increase legal immigration to more than 20,000 Cubans a year in return for Havana stopping the exodus.

To date the United States has only allowed in about 2,700 people a year, while Cuba insists a 1982 agreement allowed for thousands more. Washington is also considering other measures to admit more Cubans.

A U.S. official said an agreement was "do-able" but that many details still needed to be worked out.

The spokesman for the U.S. delegation, David Johnson, told reporters the negotiations covered a "thorough, in-depth discussion to possible solutions to the continued uncontrolled outflow of Cubans and the U.S. proposals to replace that outflow with a standard, predictable, dependable legal migration programme."

The two sides also discussed the return of about 1,500 convicts now in U.S. jails who arrived in the 1980 Mariel boatlift and whom Washington wants Cuba to take back.

Cuba has denied it allowed prisoners to join the latest exodus. State Department spokeswoman Christine Shelly said: "We received assurances that the Cuban authorities have not and would not knowingly permit dangerous criminals to be released for purposes of leaving the country."

The refugees — about 20,000 in August alone — are being taken to the U.S. navy base at Guantanamo Bay on the tip of Cuba where they are being detained, a reversal of U.S. policy which previously admitted all escaping Cubans.

The United States allocates more than 20,000 immigration visas annually to every country, including Cuba. But so far this year fewer than 3,000 Cubans met the visa requirements, which include having a close family member who is a U.S. citizen or having particular job skills.

So far Cuba has made no attempt to stop the flow. President Fidel Castro is hoping that the United States will reconsider its 32-year economic embargo.

Mr. Alarcon, a veteran foreign policy expert and international lawyer, claimed in a series of television interviews that the United States had encouraged the exodus by previously accepting Cubans escaping by sea but refusing to issue visas.

He also alleged that the economic situation, caused mainly by the embargo, was causing the flight and not political suppression.

So far the Clinton administration, partly because of pressure from the headline Cuban-American national foundation in Miami, has kept that issue off the agenda.

President Clinton has also banned remittances to Cuba and travel by relatives and increased anti-Castro broadcasts.

In New York, demonstrators against the embargo are expected to march Saturday from the United Nations to the Cuban U.N. mission about 10 streets away, police said.

About 150 people demanding an end to the embargo demonstrated Friday morning. Several anti-Castro protesters opposed them and scuffles broke out. Police arrested two people.

## Irish Protestant women demonstrate against IRA

BELFAST (R) — Women from Belfast's Protestant stronghold, pushing prams and clutching children, took to the streets to accuse the British government of selling them out to the IRA.

About 150 women and children marched from the Shankill Road area to a nearby Catholic neighbourhood on Friday night, but police using armoured vehicles as import roadblocks stopped them going further into Catholic areas.

The women vowed to carry on demonstrating until the government proved to them it had not made a secret deal with the Irish Republican Army.

"We think that concessions will come and we will not stand for it. We won't have a united Ireland," said Mary Douglas, who acted as unofficial spokeswoman for the marchers.

"We'll take to the streets, the men and all. We'll fight with them shoulder to shoulder. There will be civil war," Northern Ireland's Protestants, who want the province to stay British, fear the government has struck a covert deal with the IRA that will lead to the fulfilment of the guerrilla group's main demand — transfer of the province to Ireland's control.

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The outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF) claimed responsibility for killing a



U.S. President Bill Clinton (left) shows Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring the property where the Clinton family has been vacationing on Martha's Vineyard, Mass. Mr. Spring travelled to Martha's Vineyard to brief President Clinton on the ceasefire in Northern Ireland (AFP photo)

## Suharto positive over Timor dialogue — Mandela

JAKARA (R) — Visiting South African President Nelson Mandela said on Saturday his Indonesian counterpart Suharto responded positively to his suggestion for a dialogue to resolve problems in troubled East Timor.

"I raised the issue of East Timor with President Suharto and he gave me a good hearing. My appeal for dialogue was received positively," he told a news conference at the end of his two-day private visit to Indonesia.

Mr. Mandela said he did not discuss details of the dialogue and declined to give more details of Mr. Suharto's response in their talks on the former Portuguese colony, which was annexed by Indonesia in 1976, one year after a bloody invasion.

The United Nations does not recognise Indonesian rule in the territory, about 2,000 kilometres east of Jakarta.

A dwindling band of guerrillas is still fighting for East Timor's independence from Indonesia, which recently re-

## Italy opposes twin-track Europe option

ROME (AFP) — The Italian government said Saturday it would not accept a French and German proposal advocating a multi-track Europe, orbiting a core consisting of France, Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. "This is an unacceptable proposal which would end up splintering Europe," Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Martino said in a statement published by the Italian press on Saturday. Mr. Martino said the position taken in Germany by Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU), the main coalition partner, "does not constitute an official government proposal. When it becomes one, then we will see."

On Thursday the CDU presented a document on the future of Europe which advocates a "multi-track Europe" orbiting around a core of all the nations, bar Italy, which signed the European Union's founding Treaty of Rome 37 years ago. The idea found favour with French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur who suggested a multi-track Europe with different countries evolving in the Union at different speeds. The Italian press Saturday wrote that Mr. Kohl had excluded Italy, but that during the first weeks of Silvio Berlusconi's new government in spring, the Italian premier had found the support from Germany which failed to materialise in other European states. "We have been reduced to a second-rate power. Bravo!" headlined La Voce, a right-leaning independent daily above a photo of Kohl and Berlusconi in a warm handshake. La Stampa, a moderate conservative daily also wrote that "Italy risks moving into the B-grade."

The left-wing La Repubblica writes that Italy received "a slap in the face from Bonn."

## Japan cuts illegal immigration

TOKYO (AFP) — The number of foreigners staying illegally in Japan has fallen after officials stepped up raids and the Japanese employment situation worsened, the Japanese Ministry said here Saturday. There were 293,800 illegal foreigners in Japan on May 1, down 2,951 or one per cent from six months earlier, the ministry said. Among them were 49,992 Thai nationals, 43,369 South Koreans, 39,738 Chinese, 37,544 Filipinos and 20,757 Iranians.

## U.N. postpones Security Council expansion

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A General Assembly committee Friday agreed the Security Council should be enlarged, but reached no decision on how to do this.

As a result, Germany and Japan, who both want a permanent seat on the 15-member body, will not achieve that goal for years to come. Japan, in particular, had hoped for at least a preliminary decision before 1995, the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

A spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Ghali said that the U.N. chief, preparing for a visit to Japan, doubted the controversy could be resolved by 1995.

"The secretary-general thinks it is unlikely that the question of expansion could be resolved by 1995," spokesman Joe Sillis said.

But a senior German envoy told Reuters that Bonn was not worried about the committee's report as long as discussions continued and the

## U.N. postpones Security Council expansion

"momentum was not lost."

He said Germany would like to see some concrete proposals within the next year, but had always realised that actual ratification of any proposal would be a drawn out process.

The diplomat said he was pleased that at least the principle of enlargement of the council was established.

The committee's report said that "while there was a convergence of views that the membership of the Security Council should be enlarged, there was also agreement that the scope and nature of such enlargement require further discussion."

The report, to be given to the General Assembly, will be accompanied by a resolution stating that the group would continue its work and submit another report before the 49th assembly session ends next September.

Diplomats do not expect any further serious meetings until at least November and no substantive proposals are likely to emerge until next summer, if then. Actual ratification of any proposal is expected to take at least two years as it did the last time the Security Council was expanded in 1965.

Both Germany and Japan were excluded from U.N. membership when the world body was founded in 1945 on the ashes of World War II. Permanent Security Council seats with veto power were awarded to the victorious powers — the Soviet Union (now Russia), the United States, Britain, France and China.

In addition to the five permanent members, the council has 10 non-permanent members rotating for two-year terms according to their regions.

The discussions do not only involve permanent membership for Germany and Japan but enlarging the council for developing nations and changing the nature of its operations.

## Indonesia to keep abortion clauses out

JAKARTA (AFP) — The Indonesian delegation to the World Population Summit in Cairo has pledged to keep controversial clauses on abortion, free sex and homosexual marriage out of the conference's final documents, the official Antara news agency said Saturday. The Indonesian Council of Ulama, the highest Islamic authority in the country (MUI) and the Catholic Bishops Conference (KWI) have appealed to the Indonesian delegation to strongly oppose any initiative to legalise abortion, "free sex" and homosexual marriage. State Secretary Mardiono said that President Suharto was not able to attend the summit because of a minor kidney problem.

## U.S. voters abroad offered free courier service

WASHINGTON (AP) — Free courier service to help Americans abroad cast absentee election ballots in November was announced Friday. The service will be operated by DHL worldwide express, which has 1,500 offices throughout the world, and the Federated League of Americans Around the Globe (FLAG). An estimated 3 million civilian Americans who are potential voters will be outside the United States on Nov. 8, election day. In order to vote, they have to be officially registered in their home districts and return their absentee ballots back to those districts in time. Voters were asked to bring federal post card application forms to the nearest DHL office before Sept. 16. DHL will accept completed ballots until Nov. 1. It said it would carry the completed ballots to the United States and deposit them with the U.S. Postal Service for forwarding. Mr. Flagg said thousands of voters took advantage of a similar offer in 1992, when it was first made.

## Global warming meets with foot-draggers

GENEVA (AP) — Dragging by some governments has dashed hopes of swift action to help global warming, an international environmental group warned Friday. The World Wildlife Fund and other organisations want countries to cut emissions of so-called "greenhouse gases" thought to cause global warming — by 20 per cent by 2005. But many industrial nations insist that such action would only destroy economic growth needed to drive any future environmental progress. At a U.N. conference on changes in climate wrapped up here Friday, representatives of some 150 countries discussed whether a treaty signed in 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro goes far enough in reducing emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide. The treaty requires developed countries to cut their greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000. Though governments concede they're not doing enough to maintain greenhouse gas levels, they were slow to agree how to do it. "We feel the treaty needs to take several small steps, rather than leapingfrogging into a wide range of measures," said John S. Gaud, executive director of the U.S.-based Global Climate Coalition. "Talking about things as international energy taxes is really extraordinary if you think of the sort of ramifications nations. Circumstances differ and economies differ," he said. "However, some other nations are delaying action for too long. Years may be too late for environmental groups."

## Health care tops working women's list

WASHINGTON (R) — Health insurance for all workers is a top concern for America's working women, according to preliminary data in a Labour Department survey released Saturday. The survey, conducted by the department's Women's Bureau, showed more working women gave the highest possible rating to changing the health system than to any other issue. Nearly half — 49.8 per cent — of the random sample of 1,200 women contacted by telephone in June said health coverage for all workers was "very important to them." The survey rated possible changes in the workplace on a scale from one to 10, with "very important" at the top of the scale. The sample had a margin of error of plus or minus five per cent. The department next month plans to release full results of its survey of women's views on wages and benefits, child and elderly care, advancement opportunities and other issues.

## U.S. African neo-Nazis celebrate anniversary

HEIDELBERG, South Africa (R) — South African neo-Nazi leader Eugene Terre Blanche on Saturday led his private army on horseback through this small town south of Johannesburg to celebrate his AWW group's 21st anniversary. Several hundred members of the paramilitary AWW (Afrikaner Resistance Movement), many with pistols strapped to their waists, marched through the streets dressed in camouflage and waving flags with their swastika-like symbol. Mr. Terre Blanche, astride a black stallion, led the procession of senior members on horseback, a marching band and a convoy of several dozen vehicles. The gathering was substantially smaller than those seen before the country's first all-race elections in April. The poll was won by the AWW's arch-foe, the African National Congress of Nelson Mandela, who was sworn in as South Africa's first black president. But this small, predominantly Afrikaner town where the AWW was founded came to a halt as the army marched through the centre. Several black residents walking towards a taxi rank stopped and stared from a "discreet distance." A small police presence and at least one armoured military vehicle maintained a watchful presence. "Absent were the nearly 40 AWW members on bail facing charges of a bomb blitz that killed at least 20 people in the run-up to the country's first all-race elections last April. The crowd set up barbecues to grill sausages at the showground just outside the town, where Mr. Terre Blanche is due to address his supporters later in the day."

## Manila (AFP) — dimmed Saturday

MANILA (AFP) — dimmed Saturday found more than 100 coal mine survivors after the Philippines navy frogmen were sent to search for bodies in the southern part of the island. The search for the bodies of the 113 miners who died in the explosion of a coal mine had risen to 100, and the death toll was expected to rise. A spokesman for the navy said that the search for bodies had been hampered by bad weather. The navy said it had found the bodies of 100 miners. The search for the bodies of the 113 miners who died in the explosion of a coal mine had risen to 100, and the death toll was expected to rise. A spokesman for the navy said that the search for bodies had been hampered by bad weather. The navy said it had found the bodies of 100 miners. The search for the bodies of the 113 miners who died in the explosion of a coal mine had risen to 100, and the death toll was expected to rise. A spokesman for the navy said that the search for bodies had been hampered by bad weather. 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## Jordan Times

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Editorial and advertising offices:  
Jordan Press Foundation,  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.  
Telephone: 6671716, 670141-4  
Telex: 2497 ALRAI JO  
Facsimile: 664353

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### When waiting is a virtue

FROM EASTERN Europe to Sweden, education and welfare programmes are facing strong challenges from economists and politicians who argue that it is no business for the state to be involved in dispensing welfare to the people. Nor, they say, can economic growth be achieved if the state continues to replace the "invisible hand" of the market.

The future is for the private sector, we hear all the time. The smaller the involvement of governments in the economy, the better chances it has of attaining higher levels of growth, thus producing better living conditions for the majority of the population.

Jordanian politicians and economists generally seem to be aware that liberalising the economy is the only way through which the Kingdom can cope with the economic challenges in the impending peace era. Unfortunately, though, the steps that are being taken in that direction are at best shy, at worst non-existent.

The government continues to be the largest employer. And its majority of government employees can hardly make ends meet after their salary increases over the years have failed to even match the rate of inflation. The purchasing power of these people continues to deteriorate as the cost of living increases. Many are now simply saying that they have had it.

As against this backdrop that one should assess the public discontent over the decision which the government had taken to increase school "contributions" — which are in fact fees because students are obliged to pay them — from about JD 3 to JD 5 a year.

The proposed increases might look insignificant to most of us, even to some students and their families, but they are a considerable source of revenue for the Ministry of Education considering that 1.4 million students are attending government schools this year. Many Jordanian families, on the other hand, were willing to resist the hikes simply because they were either not willing to pay, or it was beyond their means to do so.

The controversy that the government's decision sparked and His Royal Highness the Crown Prince's intervention on Friday to rescind it should strengthen the need for a reevaluation of the whole economic policy of the Kingdom.

Reforming the tax system is long overdue. It has been promised by many governments but the promise remains unfulfilled. As a result, people are paying the taxes and the treasury. While underpaid government employees end up paying a heavy price in terms of their low standards of living, many others are paying the taxes because the collection system is so anarchistic, so inefficient and so confused and confusing.

The Crown Prince's request from the government to further study its decision to increase school "contributions" was therefore timely and well received. Thus the onus is now on the government to come up with a convincing reform package that will address not only this issue but other related matters that continue to hinder the development of the country.

In this package teachers should find a solution to their pressing problems, mainly their low salaries which have rendered many of them unwilling to perform their duties of educating the future generations. Education Minister Abdul Razek Al Rawabdeh has the right track to propose a 40 per cent increase in teaching allowances.

The government should take seriously this proposal and implement its efforts to reform the educational system to attract, underpaid and frustrated teachers cannot.

Mr. Rawabdeh is also right in saying society should shoulder some of the burden for the cost of education, as stipulated in the Constitution for every citizen. But an impoverished society cannot make a contribution. So only when living standards of Jordanians have improved can they be expected to pay their share in the educational, health and other services provided by the government.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Rai's daily Saturday backed Egypt's intentions to free the Middle East region from mass destruction weapons and its call on Israel to stop its nuclear programme. Israel is no more in need of these arsenals as it is holding peace with its Arab neighbours, and as its territory is now secured, said the writer. The West, which is not in a hurry to disarm, said the writer. The West, which is not in a hurry to disarm, said the writer. The West, which is not in a hurry to disarm, said the writer.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour said that Jordan should stop listening to its demands for equal share of the Jordan and the Golan rivers water and must not listen to ideas about the division of sea water as an alternative to this right. The writer said that the proposed desalinisation of the Mediterranean Sea water with the help of German and Japanese firms should be accepted as secondary to the basic right to the rivers' waters. Otherwise, and since the sea is under Israel's control, Jordan will remain under the mercy of the Jewish state for its water needs. Indeed, the emergence of this proposal while the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations continue, is regarded as a Western means of exerting pressure on Jordan.

### Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

## Why Israel blocked the negotiations

JORDANIAN PUBLIC opinion was somehow led to become too optimistic and expect negotiations with Israel and recovery of Jordanian rights to be finalised in one or two rounds of negotiations. Now it is time to realise that the negotiations will take time, which should be measured by months rather than by weeks or rounds of talks. Speedy negotiations may not after all be in our best interests.

Some times we put our negotiators under pressure when we expect them to come back from each round of talks with concrete results. In a way, delay is a positive sign, because it indicates that the Jordanian negotiator is not ready to give up or accept less than the just demands already announced as a minimum. If the Jordanian negotiator wants to finish negotiations at any rate, he can simply accept what his Israeli counterpart offers, but such a settlement would take place only at our expense.

It is much better for our delegation to come back and report no sufficient progress being achieved than coming back with a bad agreement which does not give us what we want. If the Israeli delegation is clever in negotiation tactics, especially stalling and wasting time, our delegation should meet these tactics with patience and perseverance.

The party that shows impatience in arriving at an agreement is prone to give more concessions than necessary. Jordan is not in a hurry. We can wait forever. The passage of time does not hurt us as long as we don't sign a premature peace treaty or normalise our economic and political relations with Israel. The whole world is aware that Jordan did not only do its bit in the peace process, but went on extra miles. Any delay or complications will obviously be an Israeli responsibility.

It is Israel which should be eager to reach a peace treaty with Jordan, and accordingly has to pay the price for such a historical turning point. If Israel thought for a moment that it can get the treaty for free, or with minimum cost, it will not hesitate to try. The Israeli negotiator is not in the business of admitting the rights of others simply because they are legal, fair, and just, he negotiates to get the maximum Jordanian concessions in return for the minimum Israeli concessions. Such a selfish strategy can be resisted

and repelled only through unlimited patience. We should make it clear that there will be no peace treaty until we recover our rights in land, borders, water, security and refugees even if negotiations continue well into the 21st century.

Negotiations are not of course about Jordanian demands only. Israel also has its demands which start with normalisation and end with an anticipation of reciprocity. Our normalisation measures should be slowed down to fit the actual progress achieved on the table of negotiations.

In the field of normalisation, Jordan already made big steps in the desired direction. It more than proved its good intentions and demonstrated readiness to go for peace all the way without hesitation. But Jordan should not make one more step except when negotiations make real progress regarding land, borders, water, security and displaced Palestinians waiting in the camps. Our normalisation concessions are already ahead of the results of negotiations.

On the other hand, we should not put our negotiators under pressure to finalise negotiations too early and at any price. Jordanian concessions should be stopped. We should not act like the house owner who saw the thief running and followed him, but in his enthusiasm, did not only catch up with him but overtook him, leaving him behind.

There is a theory circulating in Amman that Israel is purposely blocking the negotiations at the level of experts because they are not flexible from its point of view. It prefers a summit meeting at the level of His Majesty the King and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to replay the game of Camp David, when Begin addressed Sadat saying: "Sir, you have the authority to make this extra concession, while I can't because I have an opposition and a parliament to worry about."

Camp David ended up by Sadat giving most of the concessions. Such a game will not work in the case of Jordan because the King will not act against the will of his people and Parliament, and will not accept less than 385 square kilometres of Jordanian occupied land.

M. KAHIL



## In Japan's schools, World War II is no longer something to skip

By T.R.J. Reid

TOKYO — What do the Japanese teach their children about World War II?

A recent outbreak of war-related controversies here has demonstrated that Japanese feelings about this nation's role in the world war remain confused, conflicted and contentious.

Nearly half a century after the last bombs exploded, the Japanese are still engaged in explosive arguments about to whom and how much they ought to apologise.

In the Asian countries that Japan invaded, and in the West as well, it is often said that this lingering confusion is due in part to Japanese education. It has been conventional wisdom that Japanese history classes and textbooks skip World War II, offering vague explanations of Japan's motives and ignoring examples of Japanese brutality toward its perceived enemies.

But this view may be out of date. A Washington Post survey of the 12 textbooks most widely used in Japanese schools this year, plus various supplementary materials often used by teachers, indicates that textbooks have considerably increased their coverage, and their criticism, of Japan's role in World War II.

In 1989, the Education Ministry issued a new set of curriculum standards for history education; among other things, the standards call for increased attention to 20th century events and Japan's relations with other Asian countries. High school and college entrance exams now include many questions about World War II, giving students and teachers a major new incentive to focus on the war.

Accordingly, textbook publishers have responded. The current editions of major textbooks state that Japan waged a "war of aggression" as a "fascist state" allied with Italy and Germany. The books discuss Japan's use of poison gas and slave labour in Asia.

The textbooks now include information and

Japan's brutality toward its Asian neighbours. Every text surveyed discussed the Rape of Nanking, a 1937 massacre of more than 100,000 Chinese civilians that is perhaps the most notorious of the Japanese war crimes. Until about a decade ago, the massacre was not even mentioned in most Japanese schools.

None of the textbooks surveyed has much to say about the role of the late Emperor Hirohito in approving or steering the war effort. Even today, that question is too emotionally and politically charged to deal with.

The texts all note that Japan's government refused to surrender even when there was no hope of victory. "determined to... fight to the death on Japanese soil, whatever sacrifices this might mean for the people," as the sixth-grade text "New Social Studies" puts it. And yet the kamikaze suicide pilots are barely mentioned in textbooks here.

In the current crop of texts, the outline of World War II in Asia is close to what American students learn: Japan set out early in this century to conquer and colonise East Asia — not to "liberate" the Asians, as nationalists here maintained. The United States responded with economic sanctions, demanding that Japan withdraw from the Asian mainland. In response, Japan's government made a cold-blooded decision to attack the U.S. fleet at Pearl Harbour but continued sham negotiations with Washington to make sure the raid would be a surprise.

While Americans consider it natural that textbooks become more theoretical and more analytic as the students get older, in Japan the opposite pedagogical style rules. The elementary and junior high history texts here pose many discussion questions and frequently ask pupils to consider how the war looked from the viewpoint of Japan's enemies. The high school texts, in contrast, are dry and factual.

Discussing Japan's mo-

tives for its attempted conquest of East Asia, for example, the high school text "Japanese History in Depth" says: "Japan claimed the goal was to liberate Asian from Western colonial rule... However, inside Asia, resistance grew against the so-called 'Great East Asian Co-Prosperity Sphere,' Japan's effort to replace the Western powers with Japanese dominance."

But the elementary school text, "Social Studies, 6th Grade," makes the same point through questions to the student.

In one chapter, the book discusses the "unequal treaties" that Western nations imposed on Japan and other Asian countries in the 19th century. Moving on to 20th century history, it says, "Japan itself imposed an unequal treaty on Korea in an attempt to gain a footing on the continent." In the margin of the page, an illustration shows a sixth-grade girl asking "Say — didn't we bear about 'unfair treaties' somewhere else a little earlier?"

The textbook "Junior High Social Studies" tells of Yu Gwan-sun, "the Korean Joan of Arc," and other Koreans who were tortured and killed for resisting Japanese control. "But few Japanese," it says, "made any attempt to understand the outlook and circumstances of the Korean people who sought freedom and independence."

The attack on Pearl Harbour on Dec. 7 (Dec. 8, Japan time), 1941, gets a passing mention in most texts. "Japan, which had been secretly preparing for war while continuing negotiations with the U.S., invaded the Malay Peninsula on Dec. 8, 1941, and also attacked the U.S. bases at Pearl Harbour, Hawaii," notes "Junior High Social Studies — History Section."

"As a result, the whole world had become a battlefield, with the fascist countries of Germany, Italy and Japan pitted against the Allied Powers, the U.S., Britain, U.S.S.R., China and others."

Textbooks and supplementary materials used

in schools today discuss Japanese atrocities against Asian nations, explaining why the rest of Asia still feels anger and suspicion towards Japan. That may explain the angry reaction both in Japan and in East Asia this year when Japan's then justice minister declared that the Rape of Nanking was a "fiction."

The texts surveyed all describe the 1937 massacre, with estimates of the dead ranging from 110,000 to 300,000. The books describe similar Japanese conduct in Manchuria and Korea.

Both Japanese and foreign commentators have noted for decades that many Japanese people see their country as the victim of World War II even though Japan started the war. For all the new focus on Japan's selfish motives and evil deeds, the current texts also provide material to feed the sense of victimisation.

All the texts surveyed devote considerable attention to American bombing raids on Japan, with photos and paintings and quotations from people who lived through the raids. The atomic bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki get the most attention, with considerable discussion as to why the United States dropped the bombs.

Most texts cite the theory that President Harry Truman felt the bomb would shorten the war. But they don't stop there.

"Was the atomic bomb really necessary?" asks "Junior High Social Studies." "President Truman said that use of the atomic bomb saved the lives of tens of millions of American and Allied troops. And English scientists claimed that the dropping of the atomic bomb sacrificed... the citizens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as pawns in post-war strategy towards the Soviet Union. Another theory holds that the bomb was dropped in order to justify... the \$2 billion spent in making the bomb."

The writer is Tokyo bureau chief for The Washington Post.

## Protestant extremists may try to torpedo change

By Martin Cowley  
Reuter

BELFAST — The Irish Republican Army's (IRA) unprecedented ceasefire takes Northern Ireland into uncharted peaceful waters, but bitter Protestant extremists may try to torpedo any change to their British status by killing and terrorising Catholics.

The two main Protestant gangs have pledged recently they would silence their guns if the Irish Republican Army did so.

But they are unlikely to stand by while the IRA seeks to make political capital out of a truce heartily welcomed by the Irish government, sources close to the groups say.

In the immediate aftermath of the IRA's ceasefire, which it said was a "complete cessation of military operations," an umbrella group for Protestant hardliners gave no hint it would follow suit.

"Is our constitution being tampered with or is it not?" said the combined Loyalist Military Command, grouping the Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF) and Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF). "What deals have been done?"

On Tuesday, the UVF, which is responsible for dozens of random killings in the past 12 months, said the IRA ceasefire was "a recipe for civil war."

Its sister organisation, the UFF, has said it will match the IRA ceasefire with one of its own. But few security officials believe it has the discipline to restrain its volunteers, who say they will keep the province British.

In the 12 months the two groups have outdone the IRA in killings as part of a sectarian strategy to cow Catholics and wreck peace talks.

The two groups are now far more likely to try to provoke the IRA into breaking its truce by killing leading nationalist spokes-

man or ordinary Catholics, say sources close to the groups.

Security sources fear the Protestants might even try a major attack on a target in the Irish Republic to harden anti-British attitudes there and drive a wedge between the Dublin and London governments, hitherto shoulder-to-shoulder in their peace plan.

Sources close to the UFF and UVF said the extremist Protestant leadership held a series of recent meetings to map out strategy if the IRA declared a ceasefire.

The IRA hopes that after halting a 25-year war on its security forces, the British government will publicly seek to persuade the 60-40 Protestant majority that it should not fear eventual union with the Catholic Irish Republic to the south.

Republican sources said British officials told senior Republicans in secret talks last year that London could envisage a day in perhaps 25 years when the province was no longer British.

The Republicans hope the IRA ceasefire will force the government to make similar pledges publicly in what would be a major move towards ending seven-decades of partition of the island.

Such a step, however tentative or diplomatically presented, would send shivers of fear through hardline Protestants whose only real allegiance is to the British crown — not necessarily to British governments.

Protestant extremists have felt increasingly isolated, misunderstood and threatened by the Anglo-Irish peace process and fear it masks a covert attempt to end their British status and make them Irish.

As the peace drums have beaten louder, so have the Protestant guns resounded in a series of attacks on innocent Catholics, killed for their faith alone and to terrorise the community from which the IRA draws support.

## Progress in China, U.S. ties still seen difficult

By David Schlesinger  
Reuter

BEIJING — China and the United States last week both hailed the "kiss-and-make-up" visit by Commerce Secretary Ron Brown but also admitted that a full settlement of issues bedevilling relations would take time.

Mr. Brown was the first U.S. cabinet member to visit Beijing since President Bill Clinton severed the link between trade and human rights in May.

That link had prompted increasingly bitter exchanges in the years after China's army crushed pro-democracy demonstrations in Beijing's Tiananmen square on June 4, 1989.

At an ebullient news conference on Tuesday, an exhilarated Brown said Mr. Clinton's new policy had actually brought victories in both areas — business contracts worth nearly \$5 billion and a new start to bilateral dialogue on human rights.

But as if to emphasise that talk on human rights will not necessarily lead to changes in policy, Beijing police on Wednesday forcibly stopped a leading dissident from leaving home and then took him in for questioning, a relative said.

"I'm afraid I won't be able to return," Wang Dan, one of the student leaders of the Tiananmen Square protests, said by telephone shortly before police took him away.

Non-U.S. diplomats in Beijing tended to dismiss the agreement to resume human rights talks as a public relations gift to reward Mr. Clinton for his decision on trade.

"It will be very difficult to achieve any substance," said one. "Nothing will be given away and talks will be long and laborious."

President Jiang Zemin, in remarks printed on the front pages of major newspapers, told Mr. Brown the two countries had a chance to bring relations into a new era and praised Mr. Clinton for what he called a "wise decision."

But he made clear Beijing was not going to give in easily on disputes that range from the way China treats its dissidents to the huge imbalance in trade.

"As we vary in social systems, ideology, culture and economic development levels, it is no surprise to see our two countries taking different stances on different issues," Mr. Jiang told Mr. Brown.

He urged that the two countries "seek common ground while reserving differences" — Chinese shorthand for ignoring disputes while concentrating on issues that can be agreed on.

Mr. Brown himself, while also hailing a new era in ties, on Wednesday admitted that the problems in the relationship could not be resolved quickly.

"Based on my conversations in Beijing, I know two things. One, it is not going to be easy to achieve all of our goals. Our two nations have many differences and great pride," Mr. Brown said. "But the second thing I saw clearly was that we are now on the right path."

U.S. officials hinted that path could eventually lead to an historic visit by Mr. Clinton, who during his election campaign railed against what he called the dictators in Beijing.

But real difficulties need to be overcome first. China last year ran a \$23 billion trade surplus with the United States, up 25 per cent on the year before and second only to the imbalance with Japan.

U.S. companies complain bitterly Chinese firms freely steal their copyrights and patents and cheat on textile quotas.

Washington, in addition to concerns about human rights, worries about Chinese arms sales.

China, for its part, wants stronger U.S. support for its entry into the world trade body, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. It also wants an end to the handful of remaining sanctions imposed after the 1989 crackdown.

## Instant extremists may try to pedo change

**Cowley**  
man or ordinary Catholic say sources close to the groups.  
Security sources fear a major attack on a target in the Irish Republic to a den anti-British animus there and drive a wedge between the Dublin and London governments. Sources close to the IRA and UVF said the extreme series of recent meetings map out strategy if the IRA declared a ceasefire.  
The IRA hopes that halting a 25-year war on security forces, the IRA seek to persuade the Protestant majority that should not fear eventual union with the Catholic Republic to the south.  
Republican sources say British officials told last year that London envisage a day in 25 years time when the IRA would no longer exist.  
The Republicans say the IRA ceasefire will force the government to similar pledges publicly what would be a move towards ending seven-decades of partition of the island.  
Such a step, however, tentative or diplomatic, presented, would send a message of fear through the IRA through which only allegiance is to the British crown — not necessarily British governments.  
Protestant extremists have felt increasingly isolated, misunderstood and threatened by the IRA. Irish peace process and it masks a covert attempt to end their British state and make them Irish.  
As the peace drums have beaten louder, so have Protestant guns resounded in a series of attacks on innocent Catholics, for their faith alone and to terrorise the community from which the IRA draws support.

## Britain's 'gang of four' fails to win forgiveness

**By Gerrard Raven**  
**Reuters**  
**LONDON** — Three former ministers who quit the opposition Labour Party in 1981, effectively depriving it of a prospect of power for more than a decade, are now warning to the idea of Labour's new leader Tony Blair forming a government.  
Roy Jenkins, Shirley Williams and Bill Rodgers have all made friendly overtures to Mr. Blair since he won the party leadership on July 21 despite their current status as members of the (upper) House of Lords representing the minority Liberal Democrats.  
But the chances of the approaches from the three being welcomed by the party in whose governments they once served look thin.  
British politicians accept changes of policy with a shrug, but rarely forgive those who change their party.  
Mr. Jenkins, Ms. Williams and Mr. Rodgers, plus former foreign secretary David Owen, now out of politics, became known as the "gang of four" when they broke from Labour in protest at its adoption of left-wing policies to found the Social Democratic Party.  
They had held office in previous Labour administrations as, respectively, chancellor of the exchequer (finance minister), education secretary and transport minister.  
The new party's alliance with the centrist liberals almost overtook Labour in the 1983 general election, allowing the Conservatives to win a huge majority under Britain's first-past-the-post voting system.  
The alliance parties, which have since merged as the Liberal Democrats, did well enough at the 1987 and 1992 elections to deprive Labour of the votes of middle-of-the-road waverers they needed to overtake the Conservatives.  
But Mr. Jenkins, Ms. Williams and Mr. Rodgers believe their breakaway gave Labour such a shock, and pushed it so far away from its left policies of the late 1970s, that a Labour government is now clearly preferable to the centre-right Conservatives.  
Mr. Blair, a moderate with little Socialist baggage, takes over a party which has dropped policies of wholesale nationalisation, high taxes on the middle classes, and opposition to the European Union (EU). It has also reformed its once trade union-dominated internal power structure to which the "gang of four" objected.  
Mr. Jenkins, the first member of the gang to suggest the need for a new party in the 1970s, was also the first to raise political eyebrows by welcoming the election of Mr. Blair.  
In an article in the Times newspaper, he called him "the most exciting Labour choice (as leader) since the election of Hugh Gaitskell in December 1955."  
The comparison was significant. Although Mr. Gaitskell never became prime minister, he is an icon of the Labour right.  
He is remembered for his bruising battles with the fiery darling of the left, Aneurin Bevan, in the 1950s and 1960s, and for his doomed fight against a clause in the party constitution committing it to nationalisation.  
Mr. Jenkins' statement was followed by one from Ms. Williams calling for closer cooperation between Labour and the Liberal Democrats, although she did not suggest a formal pact.  
Then Mr. Rodgers went further than either of his colleagues, proclaiming that he hoped Mr. Blair would win the next general election and criticising Liberal Democrat leader Paddy Ashdown for failing to form closer ties with Labour.  
The statements have dismayed the Liberal Democrats, whose party activists are bitter opponents of Labour at local level, and sent the party's opinion poll ratings tumbling — down two percentage points to 17 per cent in the latest poll.  
Labour, meanwhile, is consolidating its hefty opinion poll lead as Mr. Blair enjoys a "honeymoon period" with the voters — it was given 55 per cent in the poll, published in the Guardian newspaper, to the Conservatives' 23 per cent.

## S. Africa celebrates first peace day under black rule

**By Marius Bosch**  
**Reuters**

**JOHANNESBURG** — South Africa marked its first national peace day under black rule on Friday with political violence waning but violent crime on the rise, particularly attacks on police.

Peace celebrations were held in all major cities with thousands of blacks and whites turning out to sing the two national anthems — Die Stem and Nkosi Sikelel i Afrika — in a gesture of unity and peace.

South Africans have been urged to learn the words of both Die Stem (the call), the Afrikaans anthem sung under previous white-apartheid governments, and the black liberation anthem Nkosi Sikelel i Afrika (God Bless Africa) in line with the government's policy of national reconciliation.

"Who would have predicted that our country's democratic elections would proceed as smoothly as they did. Who would have predicted that within a few weeks the guns... would be silenced," regional premier Tokyo Sexwale said in the commercial capital Johannesburg.

In the city, one of the worst hit by the crime wave since the April all-race elections which were won by the African National Congress (ANC), peace activists and victims of violence marched through the streets waving blue and white peace flags.

Police and human rights organisations said political violence, which claimed more than 15,000 lives in the past four years, had declined markedly since the elections which brought President Nelson Mandela to power.

About 580 people have been killed in political unrest in the three months since Mr. Mandela's national unity government took office in May, the watchdog Human Rights Committee



Nelson Mandela's government promises lives of blacks and ensure the durability of to spend millions of dollars to improve the peace (AFP photo)

(HRC) said.  
In the run-up to the elections, at least 11 people were being killed daily in political violence, mostly in the volatile KwaZulu-Natal region and in black townships east of Johannesburg.

"It is a lot lower than it has been the last couple of years. It seems to be on the decline but it has not disappeared," HRC national director Patrick Kelly told Reuters.

Mr. Mandela has declared the eradication of crime and its causes among the government's top priorities.

At least 170 police have been murdered since the beginning of the year and an average of 50 people a day were killed in criminal violence in the first three months of the year.

The number of robberies rose to 23,274 from 19,365 in the first quarter of 1993, and rapes rose by 1,109 to 7,855.

More than 90,000 cars valued at 3.3 billion rand (\$1 billion) were hijacked or stolen in South Africa last year.

With unofficial unemployment estimated at around 40 per cent of South African blacks, sociologists

cite social deprivation, the easy access to smuggled arms, and inadequate policing during the apartheid era for the surge in crime and breakdown in law and order.

Mr. Mandela's government has promised to spend millions of dollars to improve the lives of black South Africans disadvantaged under apartheid.

It plans to build a million homes and create thousands of jobs under its flagship reconstruction and development programme to improve the lives of blacks and eradicate the root causes of crime.

## India pressed to scrap anti-terrorist law

**By Pratap Chakravarty**  
**Agence France Presse**

**NEW DELHI** — The Indian government has begun a review of years of alleged misuse by its police of a tough anti-terrorist law amid a mounting debate on whether political violence can be crushed by state-sponsored terror.

A campaign to scrap the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Preventive) Act (TADA) has divided Premier P.V. Narasimha Rao's government with many of his ministers backing human rights forums demanding its repeal.

The Supreme Court, which in March upheld the validity of the legislation, has also chipped away certain key provisions of the law after lower courts threw out thousands of TADA-related cases as "bogus" ones.

Police in 21 of India's 25 states arrested 67,509 people under the law since 1985, when the TADA was enacted to crush Sikh militancy in the northern province of Punjab.

The sheer number of the detentions has now outraged rights forums, the judiciary and the government.

The TADA was strengthened in 1987 to turn the law into the cutting edge of the government's fight against Sikh, Muslim and tribal secessionism.

The upgraded version left the onus of proving innocence with the accused, directed courts to accept confessions extracted by the police as evidence, and allowed the prosecution to produce unidentified witnesses.

"This draconian law must go," said Ranganath Mishra, former Supreme Court chief justice who is now the chairman of the National Human Rights Commission, set up last year in New Delhi.

Other forums say the TADA provided the police with an excuse to replace criminal investigations with

third-degree methods for quicker results.

Torture techniques as the "roller treatment," "aeroplaneing" or "ballooning" — involving the tying up of the penis for hours to prevent urination — became feared words in strife-torn Kashmir and Punjab and in Bombay or New Delhi.

India's Internal Security Minister Jaffer Sharief, Mr. Rao's ruling Congress (I) Party's legal cell and others threw in their weight earlier this month behind Mr. Mishra's demands for the TADA's repeal.

"The fact that less than one per cent people were convicted only goes to show the law has not been properly framed or implemented," Mr. Pilot said.

Courts have rejected thousands of TADA-related cases, held trials in 8,000 others and convicted only 725 people as terrorists during 1985-94. An unknown number of detainees are still awaiting trial or hoping for bail.

Amnesty International (AI), in its latest report, accused the Indian police of using the law as an instrument of harassment.

"TADA has brutalised our police force and destroyed our democratic values," said a member of the Minorities Commission, an autonomous forum set up in the 1980s to guard the interests of India's 120 million Muslims.

The commission and rights groups say the police used the TADA as a weapon against religious minorities after blaming Bombay's Muslim underworld for last year's serial blasts which killed 317 people in western metropolis.

Hundreds of Muslims, including children, were rounded up, detained for days and tortured by the police during the blast investigations. Some 160 Muslims and 29 other people have been charged under the TADA for the March 12, 1993 attack.

## is in China, U.S. seen difficult

But he made clear Beijing was not going to give easily on disputes the range from the way China treats its dissidents to a huge imbalance in trade.  
"As we vary in some systems, ideology, culture and economic development levels, it is no surprise we see our two countries take different stances on different issues," Mr. Jiang said.  
He urged that the two countries "seek common ground while reserving differences" — Chinese shorthand for ignoring disputes while concentrating on issues that can be agreed on.  
Mr. Brown himself, who also hailed a new era of ties, on Wednesday admitted that the problems in the relationship could not be resolved quickly.  
"Based on my conversations in Beijing, I know things.  
"One, it is not going to be easy to achieve all of our goals. Our two nations have many differences and great pride," Mr. Brown said.  
"But the second thing I saw clearly was that we are not on the right path."  
U.S. officials hinted the path could eventually lead to an historic visit by Mr. Clinton, who during the election campaign raised the prospect of meeting the dictators in Beijing.  
But real difficulties need to be overcome first.  
China last year ran a \$25 billion trade surplus with the United States, up 25 per cent on the year before and second only to the imbalance with Japan.  
U.S. companies complained bitterly Chinese firms steal their copyrights and patents and cheat on trade quotas.  
Washington, in addition to concerns about human rights, worries about Chinese arms sales.  
China, for its part, supports stronger U.S. support for its entry into the General Trade body, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. It also wants an end to the handful of remaining sanctions imposed after the 1989 crackdown.

## Nigeria's aim is mere survival

**By Nicholas Kotch**  
**Reuters**

**LAGOS** — The idea that Nigeria would be an African superpower by the year 2000, armed with a "black bomb" and a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council, looks like a bad joke today.

But until very recently these were official foreign policy goals in Africa's most populous nation. Nigerians were not alone in taking them seriously.

After 14 months of political turmoil, the grand strategies for the future are in tatters. Nigeria's ambition today is merely to survive as a nation.

Many well-informed Nigerians are convinced that however threadbare the country's unity may appear to the outsider, it is still too tough to be torn apart.

But very few people will deny that the pressure for a break-up on basically tribal lines has never been stronger since Nigeria fought its 1967-70 civil war. The breakaway east, calling itself Biafra, was forced back into the federal fold.

Those old demons are gathering again, encouraged by the army's refusal in June last year to hand power to an elected civilian millionaire southerner Moshood Abiola.

"Nigeria is more divided, more unsafe now than at any time since the civil war," poet Niyi Osundare wrote this week in Newsweek magazine.

"Primordial passions are being everywhere as people scramble into tribal units, having lost faith in their place in the Nigerian nation."

Niyi Osundare is a Yoruba, the people from the southwest who are the most

aggravated because it was their son, Mr. Abiola, who was deprived of electoral victory.

But they are not alone in accusing the Hausa-Fulani elite in the north, whether in uniform or not, of monopolising power. General Sani Abacha, the current military president, is from that background.

Some leaders of the eastern Igbo, who lost the civil war, met on Aug. 21 and issued a statement saying the country was in economic and political chaos.

One strong grievance was Gen. Abacha's unexplained sacking this month of navy chief, Rear-Admiral Ali-Son Madueke, the first Igbo to be entrusted with such a senior military post since 1966.

"We the Igbo do not want war. But if one is forced on us we shall be ready, willing and able to defend ourselves," the Igbo statement said.

"We have paid our dues to Nigeria and enough is enough."

The unprecedented strength of the civilian challenge to military rule has encouraged smaller ethnic groups to lay their own claims to self-rule — none more so than the Ogoni people, who say their lands have been destroyed by oil companies. Their secessionist leader, writer Ken Saro-Wiwa, has been in prison since May.

"I do not believe Nigeria will be split up. We have spent too much time putting it together," said Ashikwe Adione-Egom, an economist who is Igbo.

But like many, he advocates a real devolution of central powers to regional entities. If that happens, he said, "I believe after this crisis we will have a society that is much more balanced and orderly."

## Russia isn't supposed to be rebuilding a Soviet-style military bloc

**By Adrian Karatnycky**

**NEW YORK** — In recent weeks, Russia and other former Soviet republics have pressed forward with plans to create a military alliance that mocks President Bill Clinton's Partnership for Peace, doing precisely what that proposal was designed to avoid: creating new Eastern and Western blocs.

More ominously, even as nuclear weapons are being withdrawn from Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan, many in the Russian military and political elite want to reassert authority to protect former Soviet republics with Russia's nuclear arsenal.

The means for spreading Russia's nuclear reach is a draft agreement for a military alliance, which is to be submitted early in 1995 to the leaders of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The plan was endorsed at a late July meeting of the commonwealth's Collective Security Council and is actively supported by Russia's defence minister, Pavel Grachev.

According to the commonwealth's chief of staff for military coordination, General Viktor Samsonov, Russia's strategic nuclear forces will provide a kind of shield against "possible aggressive intentions against all CIS participant states."

The draft security treaty also calls for the eventual creation of joint armed forces, collective peacekeeping forces and a joint air defence system. In short, it seeks to restore a cohesive, coordinated military force under unified control and under Russia's nuclear protection — a defence arrangement resembling that of the Soviet Union.

More and more, influential politicians in Russia are posing obstacles to global security interests.

Konstantin Zatulin, chairman of the Parliament's Committee for Commonwealth Affairs, is beating the drums for a "strategic partnership" between Russia and Ukraine.

**M. KAHIL**



He hints that Russia may not pressure Ukraine to give up its nuclear weapons after all — a clear retreat from pledges to turn Ukraine into a non-nuclear state. On a visit to Kiev last month, he suggested that if Ukraine and Russia became strategic partners, "the issue of Ukraine's nuclear disarmament would not be a top priority for Russia."

While Washington's attention is focused on the smuggling of small — if deadly — amounts of plutonium, the far more important commitments to remove and dismantle the nuclear arsenals of Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan could be undermined.

Until the new military alliance began gathering support among the independent republics, the

Soviet nuclear shield had been steadily receding. The United States should now make clear that the expansion of that shield would disrupt the equilibrium between NATO, the former Soviet republics and Eastern Europe.

The Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty is of only limited help. It restricts the dispersal of nuclear weapons but does not prohibit states from allowing allies to station nuclear weapons on their soil.

So the United States and its NATO allies will have to use all diplomatic means to convince Russia that it isn't in anyone's interest to draw more countries behind a nuclear trip wire.

At the moment, Russian foreign policy is in the hands of pragmatists committed to democratisation,

economic reform and cooperation with the West. But the Yeltsin team faces a stiff internal challenge from popular and powerful anti-Western forces.

Support for the restoration of the Soviet Union is widespread in the Russian military, and the parliament is dominated by anti-Western rhetoric — from Vladimir Zhirinovskiy's neo-imperialist rantings to the vituperative speeches of the Communist leader Gennadi Zyuganov, whose party seeks to revive the U.S.S.R. and attacks the United States for seeking to impose a worldwide "military dictatorship."

Moreover, the pro-Communist Agrarian Party has wide common cause with nationalist zealots like Sergei Baburin.

Together, these parties

captured nearly 50 per cent of the vote in Russia's December 1993 parliamentary elections, suggesting that a candidate sharing their anti-Western views has a real chance of winning Russia's 1996 presidential elections.

As Russia's defence establishment presses forward with efforts to build a new military alliance, America and NATO should ask against whom this alliance and its nuclear shield are directed.

With Russia's democratic future open to question, the United States ought to be unequivocal in its opposition to a new military-political-nuclear alliance among the states of the former U.S.S.R. It should concentrate on convincing Ukraine, which still holds the world's third largest nuclear arsenal, to honour commitments to relinquish

it and to resist Russian entreaties to join its military bloc.

The West has so far failed to develop strategies to deal with the threat of post-Soviet integration. At this delicate moment, a miscalculation could mean acquiescence in a new post-cold war rivalry. And if reformers fail in Russia, a new East-West nuclear divide could prove as damaging to the interests of democracy and prosperity in the region as the decisions made half a century ago by the Allies in Yalta.

The writer is president of Freedom House, a human rights organisation, and co-author of "New Nations Rising: The Fall of the Soviets and the Challenge of Independence." This article is reprinted from The New York Times.

# GATT chief says world trade pact in danger

GENEVA (R) — The head of the GATT trade organisation, Peter Sutherland, said Friday a new world trade pact could be endangered unless the big powers moved urgently to ratify the deal.

Speaking to business leaders at a conference in Cernobbio, Italy, he said the United States, the European Union (EU) and Japan had "a primary responsibility" to ensure that the pact, signed in April, could take effect next January.

Any delay, Mr. Sutherland said, would encourage protectionists to regroup and renew pressure on political leaders for policies "whose ruinous effect on prosperity and international stability is amply displayed in recent history."

"The world as a whole must not be kept waiting to realise the economic, social

and political benefits of this great global achievement," he said. Ratification and implementation should be a top international economic and political priority.

Trade officials and diplomats said Mr. Sutherland's remarks, a text of which was released by GATT in Geneva, were particularly directed towards the United States, where there have been growing signs of congressional opposition to quick ratification.

Earlier this week, Senate Republican leader Bob Dole — long seen as a supporter of the pact — suggested that the White House wait until next year to ask Congress to pass a bill implementing the deal in the United States.

Labour and consumer groups, as well as some industrial and farming lobbies

who feel threatened by an accord which slashes tariffs by an average of one third and opens world markets, are calling for changes that could wreck the pact.

Mr. Sutherland said that if the pact was not dealt with in Congress before early October, when the legislature adjourns, there could be a serious risk of a long delay despite support from the Clinton administration.

The consequences, the GATT chief said, "could also be serious for the U.S. economy and for the world as a whole."

The pact was signed by more than 100 countries in Marrakesh, Morocco, in April after seven years of tough negotiations involving, by their conclusion, more than 120 states accounting for ab-

# Representatives at World Bank work on Palestinian financing

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Palestinian, Israeli and international delegates wrapped up a two-day meeting here Friday on financing the transfer of power to Palestinians in the occupied territories, agreeing to search for more funds, a World Bank source said.

The delay in the EU — where Britain, Germany and Greece have ratified nationally — is due to uncertainty over whether the European Commission or individual states take the final legal steps rather than to opposition to the pact.

In Japan, Mr. Sutherland said, "the ratification effort seems well under way but the crucial examination of the Diet (parliament) has still to begin. It is essential that every effort be made to begin this process promptly."

worked out during talks Thursday and Friday.

That sum would be in addition to the some \$57 million already pledged by donor countries. Representatives meeting next week in Paris will take up the question of finding the extra funds.

Norway presided over this week's talks between Israeli and Palestinian representatives and delegations from the United States, the European Union, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Japan and Canada.

A bank source said revenues that Israel agreed to

share with the new Palestinian administration on the Gaza Strip and in the West Bank town of Jericho have so far fallen short of estimates and are not sufficient to fund the 9,000-member Palestinian police force and to meet other expenses.

Israel and the Palestinian Authority have agreed to make a joint appeal to donor countries for \$30 million to help cover the new costs.

A donors' meeting will be held in Paris from Sept. 8 to 10.

# Kuwait members of parliament take aim at state property policies

## Lawmakers draft bill to speed up building process

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti lawmakers, squaring off for a possible tussle with the government, have drafted a bill to speed up building amid soaring demand for homes and give private firms more say in provision of state land for housing.

The deputies, who also want to prevent potentially disastrous property price fluctuations, say their bill will help guard against abuse of public funds and hasten the repatriation of capital that has flown overseas on worries about Iraq.

Assembly speaker Ahmad Al Saadoun said if the problem went unaddressed the property market could witness a crash as bad as a stock market collapse in 1982 that initially wiped \$92 billion off shareholders' books and crippled the economy for a decade.

"The continuation of the unnatural rise in real estate prices... may lead to another economic crisis like the (1982) Manakh crisis," opposition veteran Sheikh Saadoun said last week.

"The average citizen is no longer able to afford suitable housing because of monopolies which fuel the price rise," he added.

All married Kuwaiti men are eligible for state apartments or a plot of state land on which to build with state aid and about 44,000 of them are on waiting lists expected to last years.

The backlog could rise to 65,000 by the end of the century if building plans fail to meet the challenge, the deputies say.

Tight supply of land in a country the size of the U.S. state of New Jersey has led to a steady rise in prices. A 500 square metre plot in a well-to-do area of Kuwait City now costs 200,000 dinars (\$670,000), well beyond the means of most Kuwaitis starting off in life.

Applicants for one of the most popular options for state assistance — a plot of land and an interest free loan of 70,000 (\$234,000) to help cover the cost of the plot and construction — have to wait between 10 and 13 years.

Sheikh Saadoun said the bill would stabilise property prices and provide profitable domestic business opportunities for Kuwaitis who have invested billions of dollars overseas over the years.

Opposition deputies say state dominance in such an

# Russian central bank may take over ailing banks

MOSCOW (R) — The Russian central bank plans to take temporary control of commercial banks in danger of collapse, in an effort to restore confidence in a financial system shaken by recent scandals.

"An appropriate document is now being circulated to the central bank's regional branches," said Alexander Rybenkov, head of the bank's department responsible for monitoring activities of Russia's mushrooming commercial banks.

Mr. Rybenkov told Reuters Friday that under new regulations the central bank would have the right to send its own administrators for up to six months to any commercial bank which showed signs of imminent financial collapse.

He did not say how many of Russia's 2,200 commercial banks would be affected or when the action would start.

"Of course central bank control may be introduced only after the failure of all other attempts to restore the bank to health by limiting the volume of its operations, blocking further expansion of debt, and banning acceptance of new clients," he said.

Mr. Rybenkov said many bankers, especially in the provinces, were under-qualified to run their businesses effectively.

"In our situation, one can hardly imagine all banks to be healthy," he said.

Russia's emerging and largely unregulated financial markets have been rocked recently by scandals which have shaken people's confidence in the entire system.

# Australian economy set for faster growth — analysts

SYDNEY (AFP) — Australia's buoyant economy, already one of the fastest-growing in the industrialised world, is set to accelerate further despite a recent slowdown, analysts have said.

Gross domestic product (GDP) growth slowed in the three months to June 30 to a seasonally adjusted 0.9 per cent and to 4.3 per cent over the year, the Australian Bureau of Statistics reported.

But analysts said the data provided further evidence of Australia's fine balance of robust economic growth and low inflation, and the slowdown from the March quarter's annual figure of 5.0 per cent would be short-lived.

"It appears to me that the majority of market forecasts are underestimating current GDP growth and the capacity of the economy to sustain robust growth into 1995," said Brett Allender, chief economist at Schroders Australia.

Mr. Allender said the annual GDP growth rates had been dragged down recently by poor figures in the September quarter of 1993, which would cease to have an impact in the next official quarterly GDP release.

"I expect the next figures for the September quarter (of 1994) to show growth. In fact is going to lie in the range of one-to-two per cent, lifting the annual rate to above five per cent, perhaps close to six per cent," he pointed out.

Markets could begin to worry about inflation if the economy was bounding along at that rate, Mr. Allender said, adding that he expected the central bank to lift rates further towards the end of this year to rein in future growth.

The Reserve Bank of Australia lifted the official rate by 0.75 percentage points to 5.50 per cent of Aug. 17, but by the end of 1994 "it will be obvious that the first move has had little impact on economic activity," he said.

The latest figures showed a key economic indicator of underlying inflation, the

domestic demand price deflator, rose by 0.9 per cent over the year to June.

Average weekly earnings climbed only 1.0 per cent over the year, while productivity rose 1.7 per cent.

"The economy is growing quite strongly but with no inflationary pressure and it looks as if annual growth could even accelerate," said Grant Bailey, chief economist at Citibank Australia.

Treasurer Ralph Willis said the data confirmed Australia's continued low-inflationary growth, commencing in a statement: "The accounts confirm that inflation remains subdued."

"Low inflation, high productivity and rising investment confirm that Australia is on track for a sustainable low inflation period of strong GDP and employment growth," Mr. Willis said.

Bruce Freeland, senior economist at Commonwealth Bank of Australia, said he expected growth to continue at four to five per cent in the near term.

"Really this is one of those figures where there is an awful lot of good news in it," he said. "There are risks further down the track of whether we can sustain this growth and what pressure it will place on the current account deficit, but at this stage it is generally good news."

Chris Caton, chief economist at Bankers Trust Australia, said underlying business investment grew by 10.5 per cent in the quarter.

"Over the next year, we can expect continued evolution in the economic expansion, with more of the running being taken by business fixed investment and the contribution from housing dropping away," he forecast.

# 250 Russian state firms broke — official

MOSCOW (AFP) — Some 250 Russian state-owned factories and firms have been officially classified as insolvent and many more are likely to follow suit, a Russian official has said.

Piotr Karpov, deputy director of the federal department on bankruptcies, told ITAR-TASS news agency that the government was

compiling lists of insolvent state enterprises in preparation for further action.

He said concrete decisions on the future of these enterprises — whether to retain them as state-subsidised entities or sell them to private investors — would be taken in this month.

Government experts have forecast that "a large portion of enterprises in different branches of the Russian economy are in a state of potential bankruptcy," ITAR-TASS said.

Mr. Karpov said studies now under way would give an objective picture of "who owes who what" and on the financial health of certain sectors of the Russian economy.

He indicated, however, that not all enterprises identified by the government as insolvent would be put up for sale or shut down, and referred to legal proceedings that could give some of them a chance to recover.

Mr. Karpov gave no examples or names of firms declared insolvent by the government.

# Horoscope

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 1994  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Good day to get away from it all and relax with friends who don't expect you to entertain them. Improve the quality of your life through idealistic concepts. Move your personal goals ahead.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Study a new task where productive ideas are concerned and put it in operation as soon as possible. Be alert to new and successful projects.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Listen to what family members have to suggest and go along with needed changes at home. Avoid trouble with those who live under your roof.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You have good ideas for greater productivity, so make plans to launch them at the first opportunity. Be precise in your logic.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) This is a good day to concentrate on financial matters and plan how to gain the greatest benefits. Improve your social life.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You are ready to make changes and you should seriously consider the activities you wish to retain in your life to make it successful.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) An excellent day to study facts and figures so you can advance in your line of endeavours. Think constructively about a new project.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) This is a fine day for enjoying the company of good friends you really like. Be more precise in handling private matters.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Be alert to opportunities coming your way, but don't jump into anything too hastily. Strive for increased happiness with your loved ones.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) There are many opportunities to advance now, so be aware and seize them. Allow time to engage in your favourite hobby or pastime.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You can easily handle obligations now that have been worrying you for some time. Make this a worthwhile day for those you associate with.


AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Try to cooperate more with family members and increase harmony. Make longrange plans for the days ahead which will be productive for you.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You may want to improve your surroundings, so study it well and get good ideas. Show thoughtfulness for those you have contact with.

Birthstone of September: Sapphire — Lapis Lazuli


### THE BETTER HALF

By Glasbergen



"I understand about males being more aggressive, Stanley, but footsie shouldn't be played for points!"

### Peanuts



TIME OUT!

AS TEAM MANAGER, MAY I ASK YOU SOMETHING?

COULD YOU PLEASE STOP THINKING SLEEPING, AND THINK BASEBALL?

### JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KRIPE

SINEA

DRIPEM

EXDOUT

THE PART OF THE BOOK THE SURGEON LIKED BEST.

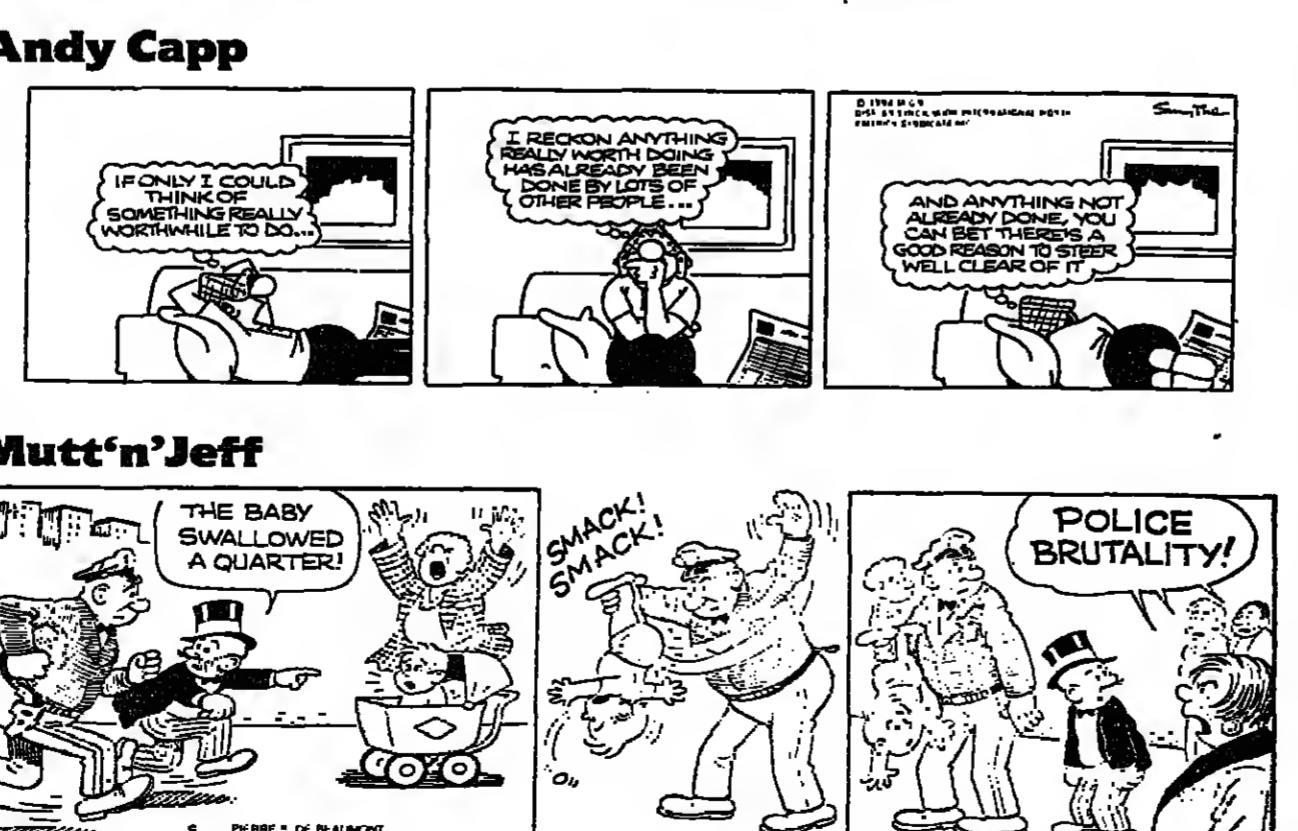
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: THE

Yesterday's Jumbles: PERKY AWASH OBLIGE SEAMAN

Answer: What the golf addict set aside for a rainy day — HIS WORK

### Mutt'n'Jeff



IF ONLY I COULD THINK OF SOMETHING REALLY WORTHWHILE TO DO...

I RECKON ANYTHING REALLY WORTH DOING HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE BY LOTS OF OTHER PEOPLE...

AND ANYTHING NOT ALREADY DONE, YOU CAN BET THERE'S A GOOD REASON TO STEER WELL CLEAR OF IT

THE BABY SWALLOWED A QUARTER!

SMACK! SMACK!

POLICE BRUTALITY!

### THE Daily Crossword

by Betty Jorgensen

ACROSS

1 Baby buggy

5 Sower's role

10 Nudge

14 — aye

15 Believer in oafs

16 Pinza of opera

17 Run

20 Set up

21 Publications, for short

22 Face shapes

23 Italian lake

24 Sea eagle

26 Run

32 Dungarees name

33 "On sale" advice

34 School transport

36 Holm oak

37 Ventured

38 Columbus

40 Each

41 Poetic foot

42 Touched ground

43 Run

48 Main part of a world

49 Small — (be leery)

50 County in Iowa

53 Old-time actor

54 John — Passos

57 Run

61 Song

62 To be aware

63 Helen position

64 Remain

65 Valley

66 Bruce

12 Window part

13 Trifle

16 In a frenzy

19 Bodies of water

23 200

24 Other

25 Incursion

26 Mistle

27 — Pines (river in Brazil)

28 Out in the open

29 Swedish super

30 Italian only

31 Having a secret meaning

35 Pain

37 Miami's county

38 Letters on a radio

39 Hawk's transport

41 Preface, briefly

44 — (Faulstich)

45 Strail

46 Bay windows

47 Salson

50 Turkish VIPs

51 Fir

52 Inner

53 Lat. abbr.

54 Dispense charity

55 Extraordinary thing

56 Machine car/bike

58 Gushion

59 One — time

60 Angry

### Business & Finance

Jordan Times

Financial Markets

Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Data in International Markets

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## World Bank financing

ng talks share with the new Palestinian administration on the Gaza Strip and in the West Bank town of Jericho have fallen short of estimates, the 9,000-member Palestinian police force and to meet other expenses.

Israel and the Palestinian Authority have agreed to make a joint appeal to donor countries for \$30 million to help cover the new costs.

A donors' meeting will be held in Paris from Sept. 8 to 10.

## omy set for analysts

conomist at Commonwealth Bank of Australia, said it expected growth to continue at four to five per cent in the near term.

"Really this is one of those figures where there is an awful lot of good news in it," he said. "There are risks further down the track of whether we can sustain this growth and what pressure it will place on the current account deficit but at this stage it is generally good news."

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1994 September 4, 1994  
Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

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ne 31) You have good ideas for your future as to launch them at the first opportunity.

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21) You are ready to make changes and der the activities you wish to retain in your life.

September 22) An excellent day to study can advance in your line of endeavour, at a new project.

October 22) This is a fine day for enjoying sads you really like. Be more precise in

November 21) Be alert to opportunities to jump into anything too hastily. Strive for your loved ones.

er 22 to December 21) There are many 30%, so be aware and seize them. Allow yourself to be a bit of a hothead.

22 to January 20) You can easily handle been worrying you for some time. Make those you associate with.

to February 19) Try to cooperate more increase harmony. Make longrange plans will be productive for you.

March 20) You may want to improve your self and get good ideas. Show thoughtful contact with.

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## Financial Markets

Jordan Times  
in co-operation with  
Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Date: 1/9/94	New York Close Date: 2/9/94
Sterling Pound	1.5454	1.5475
Deutsche Mark	1.5744	1.5550
Swiss Franc	1.3225	1.3065
French Franc	5.3910	5.3255
Japanese Yen	99.75	99.13
European Currency Unit	1.2130	1.2275

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

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## Salomon: World bond issues rose sharply in '93

NEW YORK (AFP) — Bond issues rose sharply worldwide in 1993, with \$16.3 trillion worth of bonds in circulation at the end of the year, 10 per cent more than at the end of 1992, according to a study.

Dollar bonds continued to dominate the world market, with \$7.5 trillion worth in circulation at the end of 1993, or 46.3 per cent of the total debt on the world's main 21 markets, according to the study by brokers Salomon Brothers.

The amount of dollar bonds in circulation was almost two and a half times bigger than that of yen-denominated bonds, which totalled \$3 trillion or 18.6 per

## S. Korea to stake its future on chips, high-tech industries

SEOUL (AFP) — South Korea will stake its future on computer chips and other high-tech products, spending some \$4.3 billion annually for technical research and development, according to a government blueprint.

The blueprint, presented to President Kim Young-Sam, was accompanied by a rosy forecast that the value of this year's chip exports would jump 43.7 per cent from last year's \$11.5 billion.

South Korea's chip exports are likely to maintain a steady 17 per cent increase each year, with annual chip production capacity set at \$30 billion before the end of the century, the Trade Ministry said.

"Our energy and money will be poured into chip and other strategic industries such as high definition television," a ministry official said.

The ministry said more weight would be attached to development of sophisticated chips, especially in application specific integrated circuits (ASIC) and non-memory fields.

South Korea's chip industry has grown dramatically since 1983 to become a major player in the world's memory-chip market.

Chip makers and researchers will enjoy a variety of benefits and unrestricted financing, the ministry said.

In the next three years to 1997, a total of \$244 million will be allocated to chip development, including \$62 million for home-made equipment, it said.

In memory chips, the ministry asked for a strategic alliance among domestic makers to produce 256-megabit dynamic random access memory (DRAM) chips ahead of Japan and other rivals.

## Turkish contractors seek stake in Lebanese deals

ANKARA (R) — Turkish contractors said Friday they were seeking a share of Lebanon's multi-billion-dollar construction drive during two days of talks with Lebanese State Minister Walid Jumblatt.

Representatives of leading Turkish construction firms and traders had a business dinner with Mr. Jumblatt on a boat sailing across the Bosphorus and held bilateral talks later.

"They were very fruitful contacts. He and other Lebanese officials said cultural relations between the two countries could ease our entrance into the market of \$40 billion," said one senior official of a Turkish construction company.

Mr. Jumblatt, in charge of refugee affairs, will leave Turkey Sunday after talks with President Suleyman Demirel and other senior officials.

"We may also play a role

as a general subcontractor of Western companies, which we did in Russia, if we fail to undertake any projects directly," the official said.

Contractors said Turkey had already offered Lebanon to begin ferry service between Turkey's Mediterranean coasts and Beirut.

"The Lebanese are positive towards the offer. It will enable us to overcome transport problems stemming from Syria," the official said.

Earlier this year, Turkey offered to help Beirut turn the Bekaa Valley into a major agricultural centre. The valley was home to the Turkey's separatist Kurdish guerrillas until 1993.

The guerrillas were reported to have evacuated their camps in 1993 after Turkey signed a security pact with Syria, which maintains effective control of the region.

## Gulf Air warns against price war in the region

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AFP) — Gulf Air, owned four regional governments, has warned against any price war among local carriers, saying it would undermine small airlines, the Al Hayat daily said Saturday.

Al Hayat daily said Saturday, Gulf Air chairman, Salim Al Siyyabi, told the London-based paper distributed here: "A price war is an overall phenomenon now and has hit the entire world but in different levels."

He was unsure whether airlines in the oil-rich region were undercutting each other to attract more passengers.

But he said the Gulf "cannot stand a hectic competition because it has a small population base."

"My advice is that competition should be within a

national framework that will allow national airlines to grow gradually and minimise their losses. When competition gets out of this framework, the smaller and less growing companies will be hurt," he pointed out.

Scores of airlines, including six Gulf national carriers, serve the region which is one of the fastest growing in terms of air traffic.

Experts said Gulf Air was facing growing competition from international airlines and the mushrooming carriers in the region, including the fast growing Emirates of Dubai, an expected expansion in Saudi airlines and the new national carriers of Qatar and Oman.

"I do not know the reasons behind the creation of new airline companies in the re-

gion but there is no doubt this trend runs counter to the present trend in the international aviation industry," said Mr. Siyyabi, an Omani.

He said Gulf Air, owned by Oman, Bahrain, Qatar and the Abu Dhabi emirate, had made an average net annual profit of between \$35 to \$40 million over the past few years and was expecting even better results in 1994 due to expanding operations in Asia and other regions.

The company, with total assets of more than \$2 billion dollars, has also grown by 12 per cent annually over the past three years.

It currently has around 39 planes but 15 of them, including eight Tristars and seven Boeing 737s, will be phased out.

China exported 28.1 million watches to Dubai in 1993, nearly 60 per cent of the total 46.7 million watches imported by the emirate, said the Al Khaleej newspaper, quoting figures from the state statistics department.

Hong Kong was second, exporting 14.1 million watches, followed by Japan, with export of 2.1 million watches.

South Korean exports stood at 633,000 watches while those by Taiwan stood at 514,000, Switzerland's at 398,000, India's at 146,000 and France at 30,000, according to the report.

A breakdown showed Chinese watch exports were sharply growing, jumping from 17.6 million watches in 1992. Hong Kong's exports also surged from 9.4 million while Japan's fell from 2.7 million due to the stronger yen.

China has launched a drive to increase its exports to the Gulf and other countries as part of overall reforms. From less than \$200 million in 1985, China's trade with the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) soared to nearly \$2.2 billion in 1993, official Chinese figures showed.

Despite its domination, China's watch exports to Dubai were among the lowest in value as they are far cheaper than other Asian and European watches.

According to Al Khaleej, the value of Chinese watch exports stood at 38.9 million dirhams (\$10.59 million) compared with 188.4 million dirhams (\$51.33 million) for Hong Kong, 156.7 million dirhams (\$42.69 million) for Japan, 127.9 million dirhams (\$34.8 million) for Switzerland and 43.4 million dirhams (\$11.8 million) for South Korea.

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**WORD** by Betty Jorgensen

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**Yesterday's Puzzle Solution**

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## Morceli wins overall title at IAAF grand prix final

PARIS (AP) — Showing little effects from a bout of flu, Noureddine Morceli won the overall men's title Saturday at the IAAF Mabil Grand Prix track final with a gritty victory in the 1,500 metres.

The Algerian sprinted the last lap under 51 seconds for a winning time of 3 minutes, 40.09 seconds. It was a slow time compared to his world record of 3:28.82 but it was good enough to win \$130,000.

Jackie Joyner-Kersey clinched the women's overall title with a 7.21 metre winning leap in the long jump, also winning \$130,000.

Morceli said Friday he had the flu and didn't know whether he would compete until just before race time.

His world record at 3,000 metres in Monaco in August gave him an advantage over the other men and he needed just to win his event without any worry about a top time.

He was near the head of the pack throughout a tactical race, then unleashed his devastating final kick.

He beat Burundi's Venuste Niyongabo, who had a chance to overtake Morceli in the overall standings with a victory.

Dennis Mitchell of the United States handed Linford Christie of Britain his third consecutive defeat in the 100 metres.

Mitchell's time was 10.12 seconds into a slight wind.

Jon Drummond of the United States was third in 10.18.

Christie, the world and Olympic champion, ran 9.91 at the Commonwealth Games two weeks ago but had been beaten twice since he returned to Europe.

Drummond beat him in Rieti, Italy, while Mitchell and Drummond bested him at Berlin.

Mitchell, in a fluorescent green track suit, had a good start, then fought to hold off Christie in the last 50 metres.

"I felt him coming in the middle of the race but the way I have been feeling this year when he came up at me at 90 metres I felt I could hold him off," Mitchell said.

"Dennis was two metres up on me at 35. It was quick gun and Dennis got out quick and I had to play catchup," Christie said. "I thought I won the race. I figure my chest is bigger than his."

Mitchell is now 3-3 against Christie for the season.

"I've been winning a lot of races but there are still two more races to go," Mitchell said. "I will probably race Linford again and I know he'll be ready."

Khalid Skah won a photo-finish in the men's 5,000 over fellow Moroccan Khalid Boulami in 13:14.63. Just one-hundredth of a second separated them, the same margin as in the short's event of the afternoon, the men's 100.

Joyner-Kersey was tied with four other women entering the final but won the overall title through a better performance in complex scoring system.

Heike Drechsler of Germany was one of those who had a shot at the women's title but was just third in the long jump behind Ukraine's Inessa Kravets, who leaped 6.98.

Sonia O'Sullivan of Ireland won the women's 5,000 in 15 minutes, 12.94 second and Svetlana Dimitrova of Bulgaria took the women's 100-metre hurdles in 12.66 seconds but both did not measure up point-wise to Joyner-Kersey.

Torrence also finished second in her race and was out of the overall money.

Merlene Ottey of Jamaica won the women's 100 in 10.78, equalling a personal best. She just edged Gwen Torrence of the U.S. second.

In the first final of the afternoon, the hammer threw went to world and Olympic champion Andrei Abduragimov of Tajikistan with a toss of 81.46 metres.

Wright played in 105 international, 70 of them consecutively.

Tom Finney, a contemporary in the national side, said England had "no better or more loyal servant."

"Billy was as solid as a rock. He was also a nice guy."

Wolverhampton owner Jack Hayward, who made Wright a director of the club in 1990, said: "Billy was more than just a brilliant player, captain and tactician — he was a real gentleman in the true meaning of the word. We shall not see his like again."

England manager Terry Venables said Wright was a tremendous role model for younger players.

The England team was built around Wright from the moment he appeared against Scotland at Wembley in 1947.

## Former England soccer captain dies

LONDON (R) — Former England captain Billy Wright, the first British player to be capped 100 times, died at his London home Saturday. He was 70.

He had fought a long battle against cancer, said a spokeswoman for his former club side, Wolverhampton Wanderers.

In other matches this week, Al Ahli held titleholders Al Faisali to a 1-1 draw, newcomers Kufroum stunned Al Qadissieh 3-2, Al Wihdat defeated Al Jazireh 1-0, Al Ramtha and Al Arabi drew 1-1, and Shabab Al Hussein and Al Jeel also drew 1-1 in the first match of the prestigious championship whose first round is scheduled to end by mid-November.

At Al Hussein Stadium in Irbid, over 5,000 supporters cheered Al Hussein first match of the season as they launched the competition with an impressive performance that displayed their determination to achieve an advanced standing.

Striker Munib Gharaibeh opened scoring in the 25th minute, and although Al Hussein missed a penalty kick in the first half, the three consecutive goals in the 75th, 88th and 90th

minutes were more than enough to keep lowly Al Karmel concentrating on their defence to avoid more goals.

With this win, Al Hussein topped the standings for now on goal difference.

At Amman Stadium, Al Ahli's Khalil Fatafah upset Al Faisali when he scored the precious equaliser for his team in the 71st minute.

Al Faisali had scored their goal by striker Subhi Suleiman in the 28th minute. Teammates Jamal Abu Abed, Jiryes Tadros and Mohammad Mahadin laid a series of scoring chances in the first half.

Al Faisali's fans, whose team is going after their 26th first division title, were undoubtedly extremely upset, especially since they had also lost 2-1 to Al Hussein in the Federation Shield final last week.

Newcomers Kufroum scored the most surprising result of the week when they defeated Al Qadissieh 3-2.

Kufroum's Ihab Qawasmeh stunned his opponents when he opened scoring in the 2nd minute.

Al Qadissieh soon equalised by Tha'er Ibrahim in the 16th minute.

However Kufroum seemed determined to score a win as Qawasmeh scored his second goal 7

## Al Hussein top standings after first week of Jordan Soccer League tourney

By Aileen Bannayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Newly-crowned Federation Shield champions Al Hussein gave their fans more to cheer for when they scored an impressive 4-0 victory over newcomers Al Karmel in the opening week of the 1994 first division championship organised by the Jordan Soccer Federation (JSF).

In other matches this week, Al Ahli held titleholders Al Faisali to a 1-1 draw, newcomers Kufroum stunned Al Qadissieh 3-2, Al Wihdat defeated Al Jazireh 1-0, Al Ramtha and Al Arabi drew 1-1, and Shabab Al Hussein and Al Jeel also drew 1-1 in the first match of the prestigious championship whose first round is scheduled to end by mid-November.

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Al Qadissieh soon equalised by Tha'er Ibrahim in the 16th minute.

However Kufroum seemed determined to score a win as Qawasmeh scored his second goal 7

minutes later while teammate Islam Diyabati netted in the third goal in the 45th minute.

Although striker Mustafa Adam, scored a second goal for Al Qadissieh in the 59th minute, Kufroum managed to keep their lead and scored an important first win.

In another match, Al Wihdat could only manage a 1-0 win over Al Jazireh from a header by ace striker Jihad Abdul Mun'em in the 32nd minute.

Meanwhile, Al Ramtha managed to end their match against lowly Al Arabi in a 1-1 draw at Al Hassan Stadium in a match attended by 2,000 fans.

Al Arabi's Ayman Al

Omar scored from a header in the 46th minute.

However Al Ramtha's Badran Al Shaqran and Mouaffaq Abu Hdeib led their team's attacks and succeeded in securing a goal when Al Shaqran was tackled and was awarded a penalty from which Abu Hdeib scored the equaliser in the 57th minute.

Shabab Al Hussein's Ra'ed Al Ja'fari gave his team a 1-0 lead when he scored his team's first ever goal in the first division in their match against Al Jeel.

However the relatively inexperienced Shabab Al Hussein could not hold on to their lead and Al Jeel scored their vital equaliser in the 74th minute.

Al Hussein's lead in the standings was 10 points after the first week of the season.

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## Standings after 1st week

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.
Hussein	1	1	—	—	4	—	2
Wihdat	1	1	—	—	1	—	2
Kufroum	1	1	—	—	3	2	2
Faisali	1	1	—	—	1	1	1
Ahli	1	1	—	—	1	1	1
Ramtha	1	1	—	—	1	1	1
Arab	1	1	—	—	1	1	1
Jeel	1	1	—	—	1	1	1
Shabab Al Hussein	1	1	—	—	1	1	1
Qadissieh	1	1	—	—	1	2	1
Jazireh	1	1	—	—	1	—	1
Karmel	1	1	—	—	1	4	—

## Italy's Serie A kicks off under signs of austerity

MILAN, Italy (AP) — An American defender and a Japanese forward are the novelties this season, or more correctly the result of an Italian Soccer League dealing with unprecedented financial austerity and the unwanted attention of investigating judges.

For some observers, the arrival of Alexi Lalas and Kazuyoshi (Kazu) Miura, on cheap transfer fees from developing soccer nations such as the United States and Japan, is a clear indication of the Italian league's troubles.

For the first time in post-war Italy, first-division teams were forced to severely curtail their purchases for new players.

In the wake of a recession which affected commercial sponsors and club owners — mostly businessmen — the acquisition of 17 foreign newcomers cost 50 billion lire (\$3.2 million), 50 per cent less than last year.

At the same time, 30 highly paid non-Italians, including stars such as Frenchman Jean-Pierre Papin, Argentine Claudio Caniggia and German Andreas Moeller, were sold abroad to ease the financial strain on some Italian clubs that were close to bankruptcy.

Two Serie B — or second-division — teams have been banished to the third division because of their economic problems while first-division Napoli had to provide special financial guarantees in order

to be allowed to play when the season kicks off Sunday.

The 18 teams play a 34-round schedule that will continue until May 28. This year's season will include a change in the standings, with three points awarded for a victory, one for a draw and none for a loss — the same method as the recently completed World Cup and already in use in England and France.

Sunday's opening round has defending champion AC Milan at home in San Siro Stadium against Genoa; Sampdoria facing Padova at the neutral field of Bologna; Cremonese at Parma; Juventus at Brescia; Lazio at Bari; Cagliari at Fiorentina; Reggina at Napoli; Foggia at Roma; and Torino hosting Inter.

Meanwhile, some Milan judges began investigating alleged fiscal irregularities and illegal payments behind some of the multi-million-dollar transfers from the last two years.

AC Milan officials were questioned about the 1993 transfer of Gianluigi Lentini from Torino — a record deal estimated at 40 billion lire (\$25 million).

Top executives of Torino have been investigated for several alleged administrative misdeeds and presidents of Cagliari and Foggia were briefly detained amidst kick-back scandals.

"Soccer is no longer a happy island in the sea of Italy's

depressed economy," says Giorgio Tosatti, a leading Italian soccer commentator.

Italian and European champion AC Milan, which is owned by media-tycoon-turned-premier Silvio Berlusconi, was not immune from the austerity measures, selling more players than it bought.

Milan, trying for a rare fourth consecutive league title and consecutive European Champions' Cup crowns, signed Ruud Gullit, Giovanni Stroppa and Gianluca Sordo while purging itself of Papin, Brian Laudrup, Florin Raducioiu and Fernando de Napoli.

Gullit, who returns to Milan following one year with Sampdoria, will join Montenegro Dejan Savicevic, French midfielder Marcel Desailly and Croatian Zvonimir Boban.

Dutch striker Marco van Basten, still sidelined with a recurring ankle injury, may miss his second consecutive season from Milan.

Lalas, the long-haired, goateed defender of the U.S. national team, will be the first-ever American to play in Italy, with underdog Padova.

He cost the Italian club 400 million lire (\$250,000), compared with the 10 billion lire (\$62 million) each Portuguese midfielders Paulo Sousa and Rui Costa cost Juventus of Turin and Fiorentina.

Miura did not cost Genoa a single lira — arriving through a complex deal involving the

commercial sponsors of the Italian team and Miura's former Japanese club, Verdy Kawasaki.

Despite the uncertain economic outlook, the Italian major league still is likely to produce the world's best soccer, attract the largest crowds and get the biggest television audiences in Europe.

Italy's loss to Brazil in the World Cup final in a penalty shootout was a bitter disappointment for Italian fans, but it boosted the worldwide popularity of such stars as Roberto Baggio, Giuseppe Signori, Franco Baresi, Paolo Maldini and Dino Baggio.

Roberto Baggio, the pony-tailed striker whose decisive goals lifted Italy past Nigeria in the second round of the World Cup, Spain the quarters and Bulgaria in the semis, will try to lead Juventus to its first league title in nine years.

The Turin team, owned by the Agnelli family of auto tycoons, has won the Italian league a record 22 times.

Sousa and fellow newcomer Didier Deschamps will join Baggio and Juventus regular Gianluca Viali in an attempt to end the drought.

Signori, who led the Italian league in scoring last season with 23 goals, has extended his contract with Lazio through 1997.

British midfielder Paul Gascoigne, who broke his right leg last season, is still on Lazio's payroll, but his return to competitive play is uncertain.

## Werder Bremen go top after Dortmund crash in Bundesliga

BONN (AP) — Werder Bremen finished top of the Bundesliga Saturday after past-catchers Borussia Dortmund were crushed 4-1 at Eintracht Frankfurt.

Bremen, who were 3-1 winners at Freiburg Friday night, maintained their one-point lead at the top with Ghanaian goal ace Anthony Yeboah starting the rout for Eintracht.

Yeboah struck just before half-time, cancelling out a 34th minute opener from Dortmund's Swiss striker Stephane Chapuisat.

Defender Manfred Binz made it 2-1, an own goal by

Thomas France 3-1 and Augustine Okocha, the star Nigerian midfielder, got his name on the scoresheet two minutes from time.

Now second, Borussia are joined on six points by a revitalised Bayern Munich.

Bayern, who have had a fairly miserable start to the season — losing the Super Cup to Bremen, knocked out of the German Cup by a team of amateurs and then thrashed 5-1 by Freiburg, were 3-0 winners at MSV Duisburg Friday.

The victory was achieved without the help of their

high-profile signing from AC Milan, French striker Jean-Pierre Papin, who underwent knee surgery Thursday.

Moenchengladbach's two World Cup stars, Swede Martin Dahlin and Stefan Effenburg got their team's goals in a 2-0 win over Dynamo Dresden.

Switzerland's Ciriaco Sforza scored twice in Kaiserslautern's 3-2 win over VfB Stuttgart, while Yordan Letchkov, whose goal knocked Germany out of the World Cup quarterfinals, added the third in Hamburg's 3-1 win over Karlsruhe.

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Photo shows Mr. Oh (middle)  
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## Fu retains title at World Swimming Championships Russia, Greece tie in water polo

ROME (AP) — When she first won the world title, Fu Mingxia was a tiny 12-year-old, a child star who eclipsed older, more experienced divers. After defending her title Saturday, 16-year-old Fu admits she has grown up. In her own words, she's "more sophisticated."

Olympic champion Fu produced a stunning final dive to snatch the gold medal from countrywoman Chi Bin. Needing to score over 62 points on her final dive in the 10 metre highboard, Fu brought gasps of admiration from the crowd with an inward 3 1/2 somersault. It earned her scores of 8.5 and four 8.0s to collect 75.48, the highest of the competition, as she became the first woman to win back-to-back highboard world titles.

Fu totalled 434.04 points to take first place. Chi collected silver with a score of 420.24 and Maria Jose Alcalá became the first Mexican woman to win a world championship medal by placing third with 396.48.

"I'm not really satisfied with my scores," Fu said. "I didn't get as good a score as I did at the olympics games."

Saturday's action also included preliminary team synchronized swimming, first round 3-metre men's diving, 5-metre women's diving and men's and women's water polo. Race swimming does not start until Monday.

In men's water polo Russia and Greece tied 5-5, the Netherlands edged the United States 7-7, Kazakhstan

## Four big name players get knocked out of U.S. Open

NEW YORK (AP) — There was Jim Courier getting clobbered in the stadium, Andrei Medvedev crumbling in the grandstand, Wimbledon champ Conchita Martinez and Mary Joe Fernandez reeling on court 16.

It was a Friday afternoon of sunshine and sucker punches at the U.S. Open with players hardly anyone ever heard of sneaking up and knocking out four big names.

Courier's lassitude caught up to him against a fiery, first-pumping young Italian, 21-year-old Andrea Gaudenzi, who took out the no. 11 seed 7-5, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 in the second round — the same round Courier lost in at Wimbledon.

A couple of weeks ago, Courier spoke of bagging his rackets, maybe the sport, if he couldn't recover his desire. He almost stayed away from the open, and perhaps now wishes he did.

This performance, while not as utterly indifferent as some of the ones he's put on in the past year, lacked passion for the first two sets and revealed again why he has fallen so precipitously from the top of tennis.

Courier plays at two paces, hard and harder. When those aren't enough, when his timing or accuracy are a tad off, he doesn't adjust to the conditions or his opponents.

He might have thrown Gaudenzi off by coming to the net more, mixing up strokes, doing anything different. It took an hour and a half for Courier to try a drop shot, and though it worked he never tried it again. Instead, he slugged and slugged until he was slugged out, dumping the last ball into the net.

After losing in his 22nd straight tournament, Courier was asked how he might get back to the level he played at when he won two Australian Opens and two French Opens.

"Do you want to tell me?" he responded. "It is a process. You have to work through it."

Gaudenzi couldn't have been more surprised at himself, the way he played and the way he reined in a temper that has cost him many other matches.

"I didn't expect to play this good on this surface," he said. "My best surface is clay."

Gaudenzi admitted he got "really scared" when he led 5-1 in the fourth set and Courier started coming back.

"I tell you, at 5-3 when I was serving, I was already expecting to go to 5-4. I was ready to play the fifth set, because that's how you have to be. If you just think you have to win this game, you're never going to win it," Gaudenzi said.

Karel Novacek played one of the best matches of his life to beat Medvedev 6-3, 6-2, 6-2, then pronounced, to no one's surprise, "I feel fantastic. I played, like, no mistakes."

Medvedev seemed slow on the court, stuck at times, unsure whether to come in or stay back. Novacek was playing as if in a dream, and Medvedev had no idea what to do.

Feeling pretty fantastic, too, were Californian Ginger Helgeson, who toppled women's no. 3 Martinez 3-6, 6-4, 6-1, and Ohio native Ann Grossman, who upset no. 9 Fernandez 6-4, 6-4.

Not all the seeded players fell. No. 4 Michael Stich looked strong and quick in a 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 victory over Steve Bryan, and no. 5 Stefan Edberg looked even tougher in a 6-2, 6-3, 6-2 victory over Jeff Tarango.

Three women's seeds cruised comfortably. No. 2 Arantxa Sanchez Vicario beat Sandra Cecchini 6-2, 6-1; no. 5 Kimiko Date beat Lisa Raymond 6-4, 6-2 and no. 8 Gabriela Sabatini beat Isabelle Demongot 6-0, 6-2.

Helgeson, who turns 26 three days after the open ends, lost to Martinez a few weeks ago in San Diego.

"It's been tough, playing her so many times, and playing well at periods, but never really converting and capitalizing on my opportunities and just finally closing out the match," Helgeson said.

"You lose to somebody so many times, it's really hard to get over that hurdle, to keep believing every time you walk out on court that you can do it. It just may take five, six times."

"At Wimbledon, in the final, I watched her against Martina and she just had that backhand dip down. She loves that shot. I prepared to close the net off a lot more. I believe in myself. I knew I could."

Grossman, who pulled the other big surprise among the women, also cited belief in herself as the key to victory.

"Before, I've always really been hard on myself," said the 23-year-old. "If I miss one shot, I go crazy. Everyone says I'm an angry player, and now I'm just enjoying myself."



Italy's Andrea Gaudenzi celebrates his U.S. Open victory over American Jim Courier Friday in New York (AFP photo)

## U.S. labour secretary rips baseball owners and players

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Labour Secretary Robert Reich ripped major league baseball's owners and players Friday for not trying harder to resolve their differences as the baseball strike hits the Labour Day holiday weekend with no end in sight.

Reich said the owners and players, whose negotiations are in an indefinite recess, have turned a sport beloved as the national pastime into a "symbol of national greed" with a strike entering its fourth week and a total of 284 games already cancelled.

"If the parties don't want to resolve their dispute, well, then unfortunately they're going to have to stew in their own juice," Reich said in an interview on Mutual-NBC radio.

"Baseball had been the emblem of the national pastime, the emblem of kids, the symbol of summer. It is now unfortunately becoming a symbol of national greed," Reich said. "I believe both sides are taking their customers for granted. They're taking the fans for granted," Reich said.

"The great baseball fans of America are going to be turning around and saying, frankly, a pox on both your houses. We just don't care. We're going to go to the professional football season ... and well, forget baseball."

But they have got to want to resolve their differences. So far I'm not hearing from either side that they really are dedicated to resolving those differences."

Reich said as insistent as the owners are about installing a salary cap to rein-in costs of running a franchise, so are the players adamant about refusing to accept such artificial restraints.

"I believe both sides are taking their customers for granted. They're taking the fans for granted," Reich said.

"The great baseball fans of America are going to be turning around and saying, frankly, a pox on both your houses. We just don't care. We're going to go to the professional football season ... and well, forget baseball."

## IOC accepts taekwondo, triathlon for Sydney

PARIS (R) — The up-and-coming sports of taekwondo and triathlon both won places Saturday on the programme of the Sydney 2000 Games, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) said.

An IOC spokesman said the decision was taken by the IOC's ruling executive board and had to be ratified by rank-and-file IOC members Sunday or Monday.

Taekwondo — a martial art that originated in Korea and is now practised in over 100 countries — and triathlon — a combination of swimming, cycling and running — were among 11 sports fighting for a lucrative place on the Olympic programme.

Two other events, softball and beach volleyball, are on the programme for Atlanta in 1996 but the IOC will not decide until after those games whether they should continue in Sydney.

According to the Olympic charter, the IOC must give games organisers six years' notice about what sports they should include on their programme.

But IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch told a news conference before the executive board meeting that additions could also be discussed at an IOC meeting in Budapest next June.

IOC spokesman Andrew Napier said taekwondo and triathlon would both be on the programme for Sydney only.

Taekwondo was a demonstration sport at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics. Its inclusion was fought for by IOC Vice-President Kim Young, a South Korean who heads the World Taekwondo Federation.

The board decreed that triathletes would have to cover the official Olympic distance — a 1.5-km swim, 40-km cycle race and 10-km run — rather than allow more than one triathlon event at the games.

The decision came after sports officials from around the world wrapped up the centenary Olympic Congress with a solemn declaration pledging to step up the fight against doping and give athletes more power.

The declaration, synthesising proposals made in four days of speeches, also proclaimed the unity of the Olympic movement 100 years after Frenchman Pierre de Coubertin achieved his dream of reviving the Olympics of ancient Greece.

Samaranch, a Spaniard who has overseen a transformation of the games since taking over the IOC in 1980, conceded that the 11-page document contained few new ideas — but said that was partly because the Olympics were already in good shape.

"Sometimes in your life you have to conserve what you have," he said.

The congress attracted more than 3,000 delegates from sports federations, national Olympic committees and the IOC. More than 400 speeches were made on subjects such as the relationship between sport and business or dangers facing the modern athlete.

Perhaps the main contribution to the congress, however, came from the French taxpayer. The week-long jamboree will cost more than \$15 million, two-thirds of it coming from Paris City authorities and French government coffers. Samaranch said.

Samaranch defended that expenditure, pointing out that the last Olympic Congress, in the German Black Forest resort of Baden-Baden, was 13 years ago.

And he said a routine session of the 90-strong IOC, which gets together about once a year and will meet in Paris Sunday and Monday, would cost some \$3 million anyway.

"I think it is worth it," he said.

Samaranch announced that the IOC, through its Olympic solidarity fund, was giving some 200 tonnes of food and medicine to the people of Rwanda.

The food will be distributed by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which is looking after some two million refugees from Rwanda.

Samaranch said the IOC had hoped to channel the aid through the Rwandan Olympic Committee, but the committee had simply "disappeared."

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
A TANNAN HOUSE  
TANNAN HOUSE, INC.

**WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ**

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
2005 CAEG 0KQ854 4AQ  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1♣ 1♦ 1NT Pass  
What do you bid now?

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
0Q772 0983 085 0KJ94  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1♣ 1♦ 1NT Pass  
What action do you take?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
0Q05 0Q0542 0Q04 473  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1♣ 1♦ 1NT Pass  
What action do you take?

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
074 0Q109853 05 083  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1NT Pass 1NT Pass  
What do you bid now?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
0QJ 0KJ10975 0KJ 0A34  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1♣ Pass 1NT Pass  
What do you bid now?

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
0A474 083 0A0J7 0984  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1♣ Pass 1♦ Pass  
What do you bid now?  
Look for answers on Monday.

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<b>PHILADELPHIA</b>		<b>PLAZA</b>		<b>CONCORD</b>		<b>AMMOUN</b>	<b>Nabil Al Mashini Theatre</b>	<b>AHLAN THEATRE</b>
						<b>Cinema and Theatre</b>		<b>WELCOME ARAB SUMMIT</b>
Kathleen Turner, Dennis Quaid — in <b>UNDERCOVER BLUES</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30		Nadia Al Jundi in <b>SPY HIKMAT</b> <b>FAHMI</b> Shows: 10:30, 8:30, 6:30, 3:30, 12:30		<b>CONCORD '1'</b> <b>MRS. DOUBTFIRE</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 <b>CONCORD THEATRE '2'</b> Soon...Rab' Shehab in the comedy: <b>"What's Right, Elewa?"</b> Starting of Sep. 7th, 1994		Presents the political comedy: <b>Legal Evening Entertainment</b> Starring: Abeer Issa, Daoud Jalalaj, Hassan Al Shaer and Mahmoud Abu Gharib. For reservation call tel.: 618274 - 618275	Today & Everyday Abu Awad in social comedy <b>"PUNCTURED RAE"</b>	With Amal Dabbas Every Saturday, Sunday and Monday. ★ The Play <b>Salam Ya Salam</b> With Nadera Omran Every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Sudan scholars issue fatwa against conference

KHARTOUM (AFP) — Protesters from an Islamic university in Khartoum issued a fatwa Saturday against the U.N. World Population Conference in Cairo, calling on all Muslims to boycott and "lead a war" against the event. Organisers said more than 4,000 students and lecturers from the Holy Koran and Islamic Science University marched Saturday on the city's U.N. office, where the fatwa — or religious decree — declaring the conference and its draft recommendations as counter to Islam was issued to U.N. representatives. The protesters, including women students, raised copies of the Holy Koran and chanted anti-American and anti-United Nations slogans. They handed two memoranda to U.N. envoy Adil Saghai-roon, declaring that U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali had abandoned the cause of developing countries and was "helping to eliminate" the human race by backing the conference's proposals for stemming world population growth.

## OIC urges members to attend conference

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AFP) — The Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) on Saturday urged member states to attend the U.N. World Population Conference in Cairo to block any un-Islamic resolutions. Hamid Alabd, OIC secretary general, said in a statement here that "member states must be present at the conference and make Islamic positions count during debates." "They must block the adoption of any document which goes against Islamic principles," he added. He also condemned the conference's draft resolutions which have already drawn fire from Muslim leaders and the Vatican. The draft action plan "promotes population control by abortion and free access to modern contraception," he charged. "Population growth does not always constitute an obstacle to development everywhere," he said. "Under-population is even the main handicap to development in some cases." Four out of the 48 OIC members — Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Sudan — have announced they will boycott the Cairo conference, which opens on Monday and lasts until September 13.

## Iraq joins boycott

NICOSIA (AFP) — Iraq said Saturday it would boycott the U.N. World Population Conference because its draft action plan contradicted Baghdad's policy. An Iraqi foreign ministry spokesman told the official agency INA that the conference's aims contradicted Iraq's policies and social and development programmes. The agency, monitored in Cyprus, said Baghdad had taken the decision after it "examined the document relating to the conference and found contradicting social, political and economic positions."

## U.N. chief in Cairo for conference

CAIRO (R) — U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali arrived in Cairo on Saturday for the U.N. conference on population and development, saying peace and development were inextricable. "There is no peace without development and we cannot achieve development without peace," he told reporters at Cairo airport. Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa, at the airport to meet Mr. Boutros Ghali, told reporters earlier that states boycotting the conference had made a big mistake. "They should have taken part and worked to oppose any recommendations which contradict their traditions," he said.

## Jane Fonda arrives in Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — American actress Jane Fonda arrived Saturday for the U.N. conference and said Egypt was a wise choice for the meeting since it illustrates the problems of overpopulation. Cairo is a city of 14 million and Egypt's total population is 58 million. Ms. Fonda will visit the Giza pyramids and ancient temples at Luxor in southern Egypt during her stay, as well as take part in the nine-day conference opening Monday.

## 'Kuwait gets new tanks, vehicles'

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait will take delivery of its first batch of American Abrams M1-A2 tanks and British Warrior armoured vehicles by mid-1995, an army officer was reported as saying on Saturday. Brigadier Saleh Al Masoud, commander of Kuwaiti land forces, gave no numbers in a brief interview to the Kuwait news agency but added the M1-A2 would be able to protect itself against chemical weapons. Kuwait signed agreements for the purchase of 218 of the tanks made by General Dynamics for about \$2.0 billion and 254 Warriors made by GKN for about \$1.0 billion after a U.S.-led alliance ended Iraq's occupation in the 1991 Gulf war. The weapons are expected to be delivered in stages over the remainder of the decade.

## Palestinian wounded by soldiers in Gaza

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AFP) — Israeli soldiers shot and wounded a Palestinian during a demonstration in the south of the Gaza Strip, Palestinians said Saturday. The man, in his 50s, was wounded when soldiers opened fire Friday on stone-throwing demonstrators close to the Neve Dekalim settlement and the Khan Yunes refugee camp. Palestinian police did not intervene, the sources added. Under the May 4 autonomy accord the Israeli army remained responsible for security around Jewish settlements on the strip.

## France holds four more after Morocco killings

PARIS (R) — French police on Saturday detained four more people suspected of links to gunmen who killed two Spanish tourists in Morocco last month, police sources said. The four join 13 others held in France in a probe of possible accomplices of three Frenchmen of Algerian origin and a Moroccan living in France who were arrested in Morocco after the Aug. 4 shooting and robbery in a Marrakesh hotel. French police arrested 27 people in a series of raids on Thursday but have released 14 of them. The shooting has soured relations between Morocco and Algeria — Morocco blamed the attack on a mainly Algerian gang. Algeria in turn closed its border with Morocco.

## Indonesian killed in nuclear laboratory explosion

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — A nuclear laboratory at an Indonesian science centre has exploded, leaving one worker dead and injuring a janitor, the director-general of the state atomic energy agency said Saturday. Djali Ahimsa said the laboratory blast Wednesday at the Centre for Science and Technology Development caused no radiation leaks and occurred in an area for non-radioactive materials. The atomic agency manages the nuclear laboratory in West Java province, 40 kilometres west of Jakarta, along with a 30-megawatt reactor provided by Siemens A.G. of Germany. Mr. Ahimsa said the agency is investigating the cause of the explosion. Police have sealed off the nuclear centre and military officers cordoned off the whole area, he said. The agency recently announced it would build a 10-megawatt isotope-producing reactor in the area of the accident. The Indonesian Environmental Forum, known as Walhi, called on the government to investigate the extent of the damage and determine whether the blast caused radiation leaks. "If there are such leaks, the government should publicly announce it. Do not try to cover up the case, because the public has the right to know," said Emmy Hafidz, a Walhi spokesperson.

## FIS offers truce

PARIS (R) — Algeria's banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) is offering the government the possibility of a truce for the first time as part of efforts to resolve political violence, the FIS leadership in exile said on Saturday. It said jailed FIS leader Abassi Madani had recently written to Algerian President Liamine Zeroual adding the chance of a truce to strict conditions already laid down by the FIS before any talks could start.

A spokesman for Rabah Kebir, the FIS leader in exile in Germany, said it was the first time the FIS had offered the possibility of a truce. The French daily Liberation described the offer in the letter as a major concession by the FIS. Conditions already laid down by the FIS before any talks can start include the release of all political prisoners, a return to the rule of law and the prospect of FIS political leaders being able to meet freely with leaders of their militia wings.

More than 4,000 people have been killed in civil unrest following the government's cancellation of 1992 elections that the FIS was poised to win. Mr. Zeroual resumed talks with legal opposition parties last month and asked them to contact jailed FIS leaders to seek their help in ending the political violence. The talks follow a series started by Mr. Zeroual's predecessors in late 1992, all of which failed to resolve the North African country's conflict, mainly between security forces and Muslim militants trying to overthrow the army-backed government.

Meanwhile four gunmen shot and killed an Algerian magistrate in the western town of Chlef, Algeria's APS news agency reported Saturday quoting security officials. Mohamed Khellaf was killed by the four assailants on Friday night near his home in the town 160 kilometres southwest of Algiers, APS said. About 20 magistrates and lawyers have been killed since May 1993 by suspected Muslim militants in Algeria. Twenty-six militants, sentenced to death by military or special courts, were executed early last year. In Tripoli on Friday the leaders of Libya and Sudan, on the sidelines of Libyan anniversary celebrations, have promised Mr. Zeroual they will do nothing to aid his Muslim militants.

Algerian officials have accused both countries of aiding the fundamentalists. Mr. Zeroual and Sudan's General Omar Hassan Al Bashir were among the few heads of state to attend Thursday's celebration of the 25th anniversary of Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi's revolution.

Mr. Zeroual brought his interior minister and senior security officials with him to Tripoli and used the visit to raise the Algerian crisis with both Col. Qadhafi and Gen. Bashir.

"After a joint review of the Algerian accusations, it appeared that most of them are baseless," Gen. Bashir told reporters. "We have agreed to maintain contacts to make sure that no actions are carried out threatening the security of the two countries."

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Miss Paraguay Jeanyne Feyrat is awarded the International beauty pageant Saturday at Ise City, western Japan. The final competition will be held here 04 August (AFP photo)

## 4 killed in Aden after saints' tombs destroyed

SANAA (R) — Four people were killed in fighting between Muslim zealots and security forces in Aden on Saturday and troops sealed off the approaches to the southern Yemeni port city, residents contacted from Sanaa said.

The clashes came after armed Muslim zealots believed to be linked to the purist Wahhabi sect demolished the tombs of three Muslim saints in the city on Friday, sparking a 30-minute gunfight with police, the residents told Reuters by telephone.

Security police and troops on Saturday attacked the zealots who had taken up positions on top of buildings in various parts of the city and tried to take over the police station in its commercial centre. Crater, the residents said.

Bursts of machinegun fire and explosions of rocket-propelled grenades and Bazooka rockets could still

be heard in different parts of the city on Saturday afternoon, the residents said. At least four people, two of the zealots and two from the security forces, were killed, they said. Officials in Aden declined comment.

All the land approaches to the port city were sealed off at noon local time (0900 GMT) on Saturday, apparently to stop reinforcements reaching the zealots from the neighbouring provinces of Lahj and Abyan, the residents said.

Groups of bearded young men armed with automatic weapons and bombs used bulldozers to demolish domes covering the tombs of three Muslim saints in the Crater and Sheikh Othman suburbs of Aden at dawn on Friday, the residents said.

In many Muslim countries saints are buried in mosques with domes over their tombs. But some Muslim sects, such as the puritanical Wahhabis, strongly oppose the existence

of tombs inside mosques which they see as a form of idol worship. When asked by police to disperse, the men took up positions on top of buildings. A 30-minute gunbattle followed but it was not clear if there were any injuries or arrests.

Residents also said that a small commercial aircraft belonging to the Swiss charter firm Zemex was blown up at Aden airport on Friday morning. No more details were available.

Large numbers of weapons remain in private hands in Yemen and the number of weapons in circulation has increased since the country's two-month civil war which ended on July 7.

Aden was besieged and captured by Yemeni government forces during the war against southern separatists led by leaders of South Yemen's former ruling group, the Yemen Socialist Party.

## Pope's Sarajevo visit in doubt

SARAJEVO (R) — Bosnian Serbs threw Pope John Paul's planned pilgrimage to Sarajevo into doubt on Saturday by refusing to guarantee his plane would not be shot at.

Radovan Karadzic, president of the self-proclaimed Bosnian Serb Republic, told a papal envoy he feared Muslims might attack the 74-year-old pontiff and blame the Serbs.

Privately the leadership has told the Vatican the Pope's presence in Bosnia is "highly undesirable" because the Orthodox Serbs believe the Vatican has been biased

against them during the break-up of Yugoslavia. Papal nuncio Monsignor Francesco Monterisi spent two hours with Mr. Karadzic at his Pale headquarters near Sarajevo trying to persuade the Serbs to drop their opposition.

He left saying only that "it was a very interesting meeting with the president."

Bosnian Serb Foreign Minister Aleksa Buha said: "The Serbs informed the envoy they could not take responsibility for possible incidents from the Muslim side. The visit by the holy father is still in the air."

The Pope is due to arrive in mainly Muslim Sarajevo on Thursday for what the Vatican has known since the outset will be the most dangerous visit of his pontificate.

Sarajevo airport, where he will land and take off, is surrounded by anti-aircraft guns of both sides and has been closed frequently since July by firing on U.N. relief aircraft.

A simple refusal by Mr. Karadzic to promise he will not be harmed is likely to be sufficient to block his pilgrimage to the city where 10,000 people have been killed in 29 months of Serb siege.

## Palestinians introduce new school curriculum

By Wafa Amr  
Reuters

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Palestinians, whose education was once controlled by Israel, are introducing a new curriculum including Palestinian history to schools in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

Over half a million pupils began classes on Saturday in schools run for the first time by the Palestinian Authority.

"We are in the process of developing an independent Palestinian curriculum after controlling our education system for the first time in our history," said Sami Adwan, a professor at Bethlehem University.

"We are continuing now with the existing curricu-

lum, making changes along the way until we make a permanent one that will come as we achieve statehood," he told a conference organised by the International Centre for Peace in the Middle East.

Palestinian officials said the PLO had begun changing the curriculum in the past year.

They said the Palestinian authority will introduce a new subject to be taught in schools dealing with Palestinian history and social structure.

One official said school books were "Jordanian oriented, with King Hussein's pictures inside each book and a foreword by the King. Books and curricula were also censored by the Israeli authorities."

Israel had tightly control-

led Palestinian schools and barred teaching students anything about Palestinian history.

After 27 years of Israeli occupation, Palestinians took over most of the Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho in May in the first phase of last September's peace deal between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Israel this week handed over control of the education authority in the rest of the West Bank to the Palestinians.

Mr. Adwan said the Palestinian Authority's shortage of money to cover educational needs would be a major problem.

"We are starting from scratch. We don't have our own educational philosophy," he said.

"Our curriculum was historically influenced by powers which controlled us such as the Jordanians in the West Bank and the Egyptians in the Gaza Strip and then the Israelis."

"Thus our history, geography, and social structure had been neglected throughout history in our curriculum," Mr. Adwan said.

He said under Israel occupation, the Palestinian education system suffered from underdevelopment and neglect.

Most school buildings were unfit for teaching since they were not originally built for educational purposes, he added.

"There is bad lighting, no ventilation, no sanitation, no heating. Ceilings of many schools are falling

down and classrooms are very small."

Teachers' salaries ranged from only \$200 to \$450 a month, compelling many to seek part-time jobs for extra pay, he said.

"The ratio of teacher to student is very high — one to 31 in the West Bank and one to 39 in Gaza Strip."

"There are 19,641 teachers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and we need an additional 20,000 teachers to make the balance between teachers and students," Mr. Adwan said.

In contrast, Israeli school teacher Sami Sheerit told the conference that the average class in Israel has two teachers and about 25 pupils who use computers and videos at school.

## COLUMN

## Cruise cancelled on mystery illness ship

LOS ANGELES (R) — A Labour Day weekend cruise aboard a luxury liner was abruptly cancelled Friday following the outbreak of a mysterious intestinal illness that killed more than 400 passengers and crew and may have caused the death of one man. A spokesman for Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines said the company had decided to cancel the three-day cruise aboard Viking Princess after being told by health officials that the illness was caused by a virus.

## Taiwan jails teacher for boy's death

TAIPEI (R) — A Taiwan nursery school teacher has been sentenced to seven and a half years in prison after a four-year-old boy suffocated when the teacher locked him in a school car, a court spokesman said on Saturday. Pan Shioh-Ling, 18, a teacher at a nursery school in the southern county of Pingtung, locked Feng Wei-Jieh, in a school car last April for six hours as punishment after the four-year-old refused to apologize for quarrelling with other students. Feng was found dead in the car six hours later. Feng's parents told local newspapers they would appeal because the sentence for the teacher was too light.

## Poisoned arrows latest in Khmer Rouge arsenal

BANGKOK (AFP) — Cambodia's Khmer Rouge guerrillas said Saturday they had added poisoned arrows to their arsenal of weapons. In a broadcast monitored in Thailand, Khmer Rouge radio gave a long list of villages where bows and poisoned arrows were being manufactured for use against government troops. The radio also said new traps had been laid for government troops around Khmer Rouge-held villages consisting of camouflaged ditches filled with bamboo spikes shaved to a sharp point.

## Singaporean sentenced to death for drug trafficking

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Singaporean Tan Yew Lee has been sentenced to death by hanging for drug trafficking, a High Court official said Saturday. Tan, 35, was found guilty of possession of 13 packets of heroin, weighing a total of 1.4 kilograms, late last year. His sentence was handed down Friday. Tan has an automatic appeal against the death sentence which is mandatory for drug trafficking. An individual caught with 15 grammes or more of heroin is deemed to be a drug trafficker. Since the introduction of the mandatory death sentence in 1975, when the drug laws were amended, 76 people have been hanged, about half of them foreigners. About another 50 people are either awaiting trial for drug trafficking, or appealing against death sentences.

## New San Francisco faultline discovered

SAN FRANCISCO, California (AFP) — Scientists have discovered a deep faultline in the earth's crust linking the two known major faultlines along the west coast of the United States, the magazine Science reported in its latest issue Friday. The 65-kilometre faultline, running to a depth of 15 kilometres between San Jose and Vallejo, links the San Andreas and Hayward faultlines and could be the trigger for periodic earthquakes in the San Francisco bay area, the magazine said. So far unnamed, the fault is too deep to cause quakes itself but could pump energy to pass from one of the major faultlines to the other and thereby cause an earthquake. An official of the U.S. Geological Survey, Thomas Brocher, said the discovery would not allow it to predict earthquakes with perfect accuracy but would improve its detection service.

...suspected of aiding militants...

...Hassan al...

Regent cal...

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Royal com...

for Parliar...

normalisatio...

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Europeans...

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its forces attac...